Gilbert Onion Skin
COTTON FIBRE

27a 1950 Alabama (Charlie Hurst)

8031

St. Clair Man Shot To Death

Lynching 27

PELL CITY, ALA., Feb. 22 —(AP)— An operator of a country store was shot to death tonight by a small,unmasked gang. The victim's son was wounded in the gun battle.

Charlie

The dead man was Charlie Hurst, 42, who lived about three miles east of Pell City. His son, Howard, about 21, was wounded ir the hip.

Hip

Chief Deputy Sheriff Tollie Lockridge gave this account of the slaying:

2-23-50

Howard Hurst said his father was called to the front door of their home shortly after 7 p.m. The elder Hurst told the callers to wait while he put his shoes on.

27a

He went back into a room and told his son:

Montgomery Ala.

"I think the Ku Kluxers are after me."

"You better take the rifle," Howard said.

"No, I was just joking," the elder man said. He went out.

About two minutes later, Hurst's son heard his father shout. He grabbed up an automatic rifle, ran to the door and saw his father being drapped to an automotibe by two or three men. About three others were with them.

The boy raised the rifle but didn't know how to release the safety catch.

His father broke loose and ran toward him. As he did a shot was fired from the car and Howard was wounded in the hip.

The elder Hurst snatched the rifle, turned and fired three shots at the car. As he did so, he was struck by pistol bullets in the arm, chest and stomach. He did within a few minutes. The attackers fled.

Top Klansman Is Jailed In Pell City Slaying; Rev. Horn Denies Charges

Advertiser

Wed. 3-1-50

Lynching 27 27a Ala.

Kluxer's Suicide Draws Attention Of Hurst Murder Investigators; Talladega Suspect Is Also Held

Montgomery Ala

PELL CITY, ALA., Feb. 28—(AP)—A Ku Klux Klan night rider's suicide led Tuesday to murder charges against two men, one a high KKK official.

They were charged with the slaying of Charlie Hurst, 39, here the night of Feb. 22.

Those arrested were the Rev. Alvin Horn, Baptist minister and Klan organizer in this area, and C. J. Luker, Talladega furniture dealer.

The suicide of Roy Heath, 55, at Talladega Sunday drew attention of those investigating the Hurst slaying. Sheriff Ira Davis took statements from three of the man's sons and a nephew, Bill Heath.

The sheriff quoted both the Rev. Horn and Luker as denying any part in the Hurst killing. He quoted Horn as saying Heath had told the minister "he had been on a ride with some of the boys and a man got killed." Horn said, the sheriff added, that he informed Heath he "would be on his own" so far as the Klan was concerned.

Riders Unmasked

Hurst was shot down in an exchange of gunfire in front of his home. He had told his son, Howard, 19, "I think the Ku Klux is after me," when the night riders, all unmasked and not in robes, drove up to his house and called him out.

Wed.

3-1-50

Hurst called to his son for help, and broke away from two men to take a rifle which Howard brought out. As Hurst began firing at the raid car, he fell, mortally hurt by three pistol bullets.

Howard Hurst got a minor wound.

The Rev. Horn is a former director of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, an Alabama organization, but recently split with that group to become an organizer for the Association of Georgia Klans, headed by Sam Roper, Atlanta. The minister was "banished" by the Alabama group.

He also appeared before the Alabama Legislature last summer to fight a bill, later enacted into law, which outlawed the mask. This act was adopted after a series of floggings, cross burnings and other acts of mob terrorism in the Birmingham area last May and June.

Experts Visit

The minister said he expected Roper to visit him in jail here.

Bill Heath, nephew of Roy Heath, said his uncle had discussed the Hurst raid with members of his family before he shot himself. Before his death, the nephew added, Roy Heath tore up his Klan membership papers and denounced the white robed order.

In jail here, the Rev. Horn said "It doesn't bother me to be in jail for nothing." He denied any part in the Hurst raid.

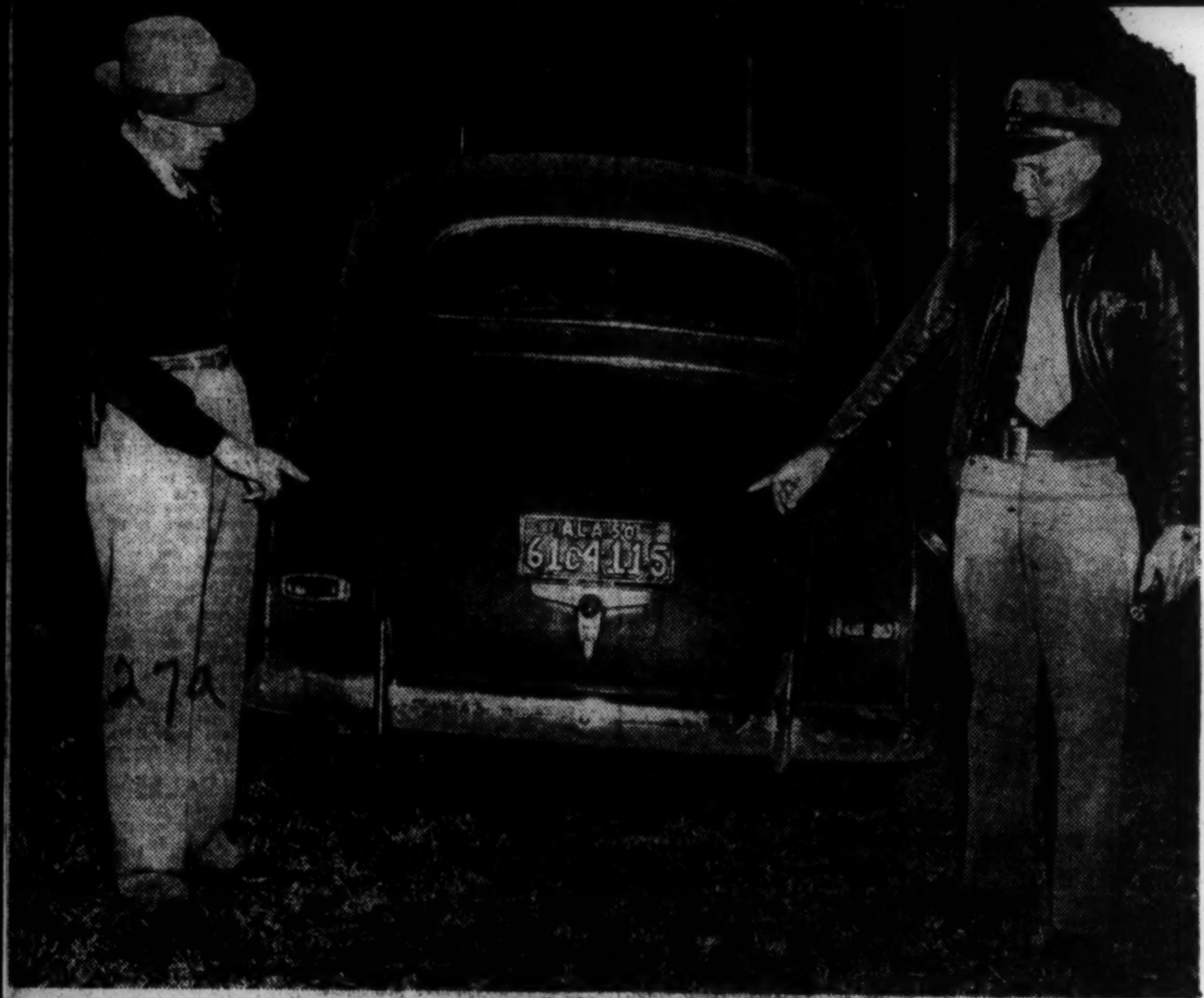
Luker said:

"I'm innocent. My lawyers advised me not to talk."

Luker also said he was not a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

Sheriff Davis seized an automobile, owned by Luker, which he identified as the car used by the raiders the night Hurst was killed.

Bill Heath told the sheriff he had replaced a broken glass in the car the night of the slaying. He said the window taken out had been pierced by two bullets.



THE DEATH CAR—St. Clair Chief Deputy Sheriff Tollie Lockridge, right, and Highway Patrol Sgt. O. F. Coley inspect the car seized yesterday in connection with the night-gang slaying of Charlie Hurst.

Pell City Case—

Three Raids Like Clockwork

PELL CITY, Ala., Feb. 28—The three raids ending in arrest of two men on murder charges yesterday moved like clockwork.

They were the result of careful planning and co-ordination of 16 law enforcement officers from three counties.

News 27a

* * *

THE ARRESTS FOLLOWED five days and nights of hard work on the part of three men, State Investigators Ben Allen and W. L. Allen and St. Clair County Sheriff Ira Davis.

These three men have slept only in snatches since Charlie Hurst was shot down in his front yard last Wednesday night by a gang of night riders.

News, 2-28-50

Before yesterday's raids—three of them made separately in two counties at the same time—all participating officers were briefed. Each knew exactly what he was to look for and where he was to find it.

ONE GROUP WENT to the Ritz Furniture Store in Talladega where Claude Luker was arrested. W. L. Allen headed this group of officers.

It went off like clockwork. Luker was found and arrested within two minutes.

Sheriff Davis and Ben Allen headed for Horn Mountain in Clay County, to arrest Alvin Horn. They were met inside the Clay County Line by Clay's Sheriff Rhett Owen.

* * *

THE TRIO MOVED into the Horn yard just before sunset. He was not at home. Children playing in the yard said he was in Talladega.

The two-way radio was used to alert officers in Talladega.

The officers moved back onto the highway, started toward Talladega when they met Horn traveling homeward. They turned around and followed him back into his yard.

He was taken quietly and on schedule.

* * *

WHILE THESE two raids were going on, Patrolmen Eugene Montalbano and J. W. Williams were leading the raid on the abandoned well in which shattered glass from what is believed to be the mob car was found.

The glass was found. Another group confiscated the car that is in custody of officers today. State Toxicologist C. D. Brooks quickly moved in to examine the car.

This was done right on schedule.

Officers participating in the swift developments in the fast popping investigation yesterday included:

Investigators Ben Allen, W. L. Allen, Dr. C. D. Brooks, St. Clair County Sheriff Ira Davis, Highway Patrolman C. R. Clayton, St. Clair County Solicitor Frank Emby.

Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall, St. Clair Chief Deputy C. Tollie Lockridge, Talladega County Sheriff Earl Howell, Highway Patrol Sgt. O. F. Coley, Patrolman J. W. Cloud, Patrolman E. L. Barrentine, Patrolman Eugene Montalbano, Patrolman J. W. Williamson, Talladega Police Chief Willis Dean and Clay County Sheriff Rhett Own Owens.

27a 1950

Alabama (Rozell Lewis)

8032

done X

Lynching

Four Charged With Murder

Constitution

PHENIX CITY, Ala., June 15—(AP)—A former Columbus, Ga., policeman and three Negroes were charged with murder Thursday in the death of a Phenix City Negro.

[illegible] 6-16-50

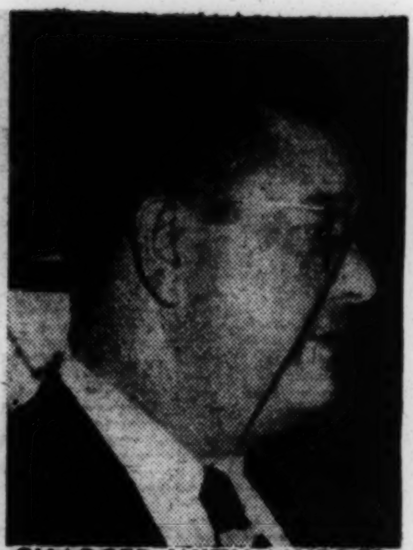
The former policeman was named as Otis C. Smith by Sheriff Ralph Matthews, Jr. He named the Negroes as Homer Coleman, Columbus, and James Bynam, Sr., and Billy Bynam, of Seale, Ala.

[illegible]

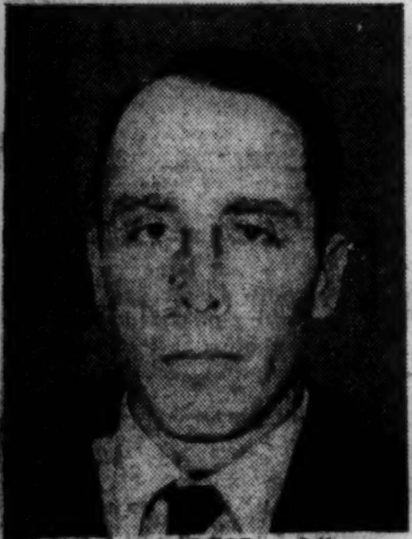
They are charged with the slaying of Rozell Lewis whose mutilated body was found on a road May 1. The death was first attributed to a hit-and-run automobile accident.

However, Sheriff Matthews quoted an unnamed eyewitness as saying Lewis was cut and knocked down and then run over by two cars.

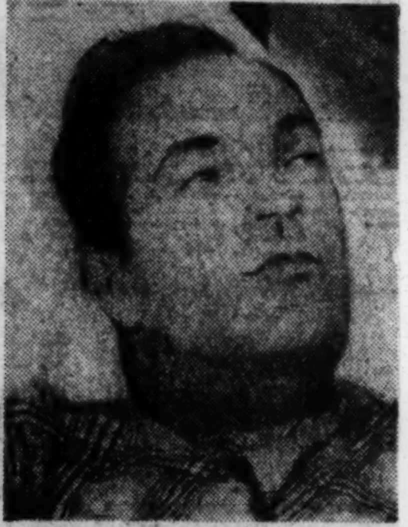
WORKER INDICTED— Charlie Carlisle, Jr.



CHARGED WITH MURDER —Claude Luker.



ALSO INDICTED—Albert Wilson.



MANUFACTURER—C. M. Hunter.

Five Men Indicted In Hurst's Slaying

Lynching

News, Bir. 3-24-50

Four Already In Custody, Fifth's Name Not Disclosed; Deputies Seek Rev. Horn

Birmingham, Ala.

PELL CITY, Ala., March 24—The whip of St. Clair County authority has lashed out in the fight to halt night-riding violence.

The St. Clair County Grand Jury late yesterday indicted five men for murder in the fatal shooting of Charles Hurst, Pell City rolling store operator, the night of Feb. 21.

Four of the men already are in custody of officers. They are Charlie Carlisle, Jr., Pell City textile worker; Claude Luker, Talladega furniture dealer; Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer, and C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer.

Hunter is in Pell City Infirmary under police custody. The other three are held in St. Clair County Jail here.

* * *

A FIFTH PERSON was indicted. Solicitor Leland Randall said his identity could not be disclosed pending his arrest.

Forty-seven witnesses appeared before the grand jurors during its two-day session. The jury was convened Wednesday morning by Judge J. H. Disque, Jr., of Gadsden, who urged the jurors to see that the "lawless element" drew "no comfort from your deliberations."

Only a handful of people were in the courtroom when the jurors announced they were ready to report.

There was tenseness throughout, however, as Charles Hodges, of Odenville, jury foreman, rose and read the jury report.

THE REPORT READ, in part, as follows:

News

"We return herewith into open court four felony indictments, one of which is a joint indictment charging two offenders.

"We wish to express our deep appreciation to Sheriff Ira Davis, his deputies, State Investigators W. L. Allen and Ben Allen, State Highway Patrolmen C. R. Clayton and Lee Burroughs and R. E. (Buster) Hogan of The Birmingham News and Age-Herald for their untiring devotion to duty in splendid work which they have rendered in their investigation of the cases which we have investigated."

Bir. 3-24-50

AMONG THE WITNESSES questioned was Sam Roper, head of the Georgia Klans.

A jury subpoena was issued for the Rev. Alvin Horn, organizer for the Georgia Association of Ku Klux Klans, but the Talladega Baptist minister could not be located by deputies.

Hurst, 43, was fatally wounded in his front yard the night of Feb. 22 by an unmasked mob. He told his son Howard, 19, just before he was shot, "The Ku Kluxers are after me."

The night riders wounded the younger Hurst in the hip as his father fought to keep from being dragged into a car.

THE HURST SLAYING climaxed a series of floggings by masked and unmasked mobs extending over a period of many months in St. Clair, Talladega and Clay Counties.

The night of Jan. 13, J. B. Walker, a young Pell City resident, was snatched off the streets by a band of unmasked men. He was driven to a wooded area a few miles away, where he felt the bite of the lash on his back.

Just a few weeks before Hurst was slain, Albert Watts, about 50, Talladega barbecue stand operator, was the victim of another band of unmasked men, who took him off a Talladega street one night, carried him to some woods and whipped him so brutally he was put in a hospital for several days.

These incidents occurred after the Alabama Legislature outlawed

the mask last Summer. Prior to that there were many forays by hooded, robed men. Several Negroes and white persons were flogged in Clay and Talladega Counties.

Masked Murder Case—

Search Still Continues For Fifth Man Wanted In Pell City Slaying

News

PELL CITY, Ala., March 27—(AP)—A search continued today for a fifth man indicted in the night rider slaying of a country storekeeper.

He has been sought since the indictment was returned last Wednesday by the St. Clair County Grand Jury. By law, the name of the accused man and the charge will not be disclosed until his arrest.

3-28

Birmingham Ala

Four others were charged with murder. They are C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer and former police officer here; Claude Luker, Talladega furniture dealer; Charlie Carlisle, Jr., Pell City textile mill worker, and Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer.

27a

They were arrested several weeks ago on murder warrants prior to the Grand Jury report.

They are accused in the fatal shooting of Charlie Hurst, 39, by an unmasked band. Hurst was killed as he fought to keep from being dragged into a car at his home near Pell City.

A son, Howard, 19, told officers his father said just before going out to meet the men: "I think the Kluxers are after me." The son was wounded in the hip.

St. Clair Does It

I HAVE WATCHED the people of St. Clair County investigate the night rider shooting of Charlie Hurst.

27a

And what I have seen makes me proud of Sheriff Ira Davis, Solicitors Leland Randall and Frank Embry, Circuit Judge J. H. Disque and the men on the St. Clair County Grand Jury. The state investigators, W. L. and Ben Allen deserve a pat on the back.

News

Five men have been indicted. Now let them have a fair trial. Let the state present its evidence and the defense be given every right to see that justice is done.

Klan Pastor Is Jailed in Murder Case

27a

Ala

Constitution

PELL CITY, Ala.—(AP)—A Ku Klux Klan official is under arrest today on a murder indictment resulting from a night rider slaying.

News

3-30-50

The Rev. Alvin Horn, Baptist Minister and organizer for the Association of Georgia Klans, was picked up at his Talladega County home by highway patrolmen.

Atlanta Ga

He and four others were accused in the gun-slaying of Charlie Hurst, 39, a country storekeeper the night of Feb. 22. Hurst was shot down shortly after he told a son: "It looks like the Kluxers are after me."

Claude Luker freed on murder charge

27a

Pell City jury takes 59 minutes to return verdict

BY DAN COBB
News staff writer

PELL CITY, July 1—Claude Luker walks the streets Saturday as a free man.

News

The Talladega furniture merchant is free of a charge of murder in the night-mob slaying of Charlie Hurst, tubercular rolling store operator, at his home near here on Feb. 22.

Luker was the one of five men charged with murder in the brutal killing.

Sat 7-1-1950

A St. Clair circuit jury started deliberating evidence in the Luker case at 3:59 p.m. Friday. Fifty-nine minutes later it returned a verdict.

Judge J. H. Disque read: "We the jury find the defendant . . . not guilty."

Luker's color turned from a grave gray into a happy, smiling flush. He jumped from his seat with tears in his eyes and started pumping the hand of the juror closest to him.

Judge Disque stopped him. "Wait a minute," the judge admonished, "this court still is in session." He sat back down.

A minute later, the entire Luker family, including his wife, and daughter, Mrs. Abbie Ruth Justice, and his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Luker, headed for the jury, pumping hands and smiling broadly although tears streamed down their faces.

A few minutes later, Luker walked out of St. Clair County Jail. Standing in the lobby watching him as he left was Charlie Carlisle, Jr.

Just Two Days Before Carlisle had been convicted of first degree manslaughter in the Hurst killing. A statement made by Carlisle named Luker as the driver of the car which went to the Hurst home. Carlisle, 25,drew five years. He had refused to testify against Luker. The case of the State fell when he refused to testify. His statement could not be used.

Testimony against Luker was entirely circumstantial.

The jury apparently was not satisfied with the strength of circumstances related from the witness stand. The 12 jurors had not heard the testimony in the Carlisle case.

They knew nothing of Carlisle's confession.

Within two hours after the acquittal verdict was returned, the other defendants in the case were out of jail on bond. Albert Wilson Talladega farmer, and C.M. Hunter,Pell City mattress maker,were released on $5,000 bonds. Alvin Horn, the fifth defendant,already had been free under the same bond.

Carlisle, who was formally,sentenced by Judge Disque Friday afternoon,also was released on a$3,000 appeal bond. It is understood that he will ask for probation.

THERE WERE TEARS in Carlisle's eyes as he watched Luker leave the jail, free. He stood in the corridor of the building as Luker and his wife left the heavy iron doors in front of the jail.

Luker left smiling broadly. His wife was clutching his arm. He said "I'm the happiest man you ever talked to. Boys, I'm one man the jury did the right thing to. I was innocent.

"Four months in that place would kill a man." He was referring to the jail.

Sat, 7-1-50

As he left, he was chewing gum again. When he took the witness stand Friday, he was chewing rapidly. His attorney, Roderick Beddow, gave him a piece of paper and Luker spit the gum out before he was questioned.

No date for trial of Wilson, Hunter and Horn has been set.

Judge Disque has a heavy docket in Gadsden during the next few weeks.

He is scheduled to hear the other three cases.

8034

Post-Herald Thur. 6-29-50

HAPPIER DAY—This picture of Charlie Carlisle and his wife was taken in a happier moment than the one that came yesterday afternoon, when the youth was found guilty of manslaughter in the night-ride slaying of Charlie Hurst.

Youth Gets 5 Years In Hurst Slaying

Post-Herald Thur. 6-29-50

Birmingham, Ala.

Jury Convicts Pell City Defendant Of Manslaughter In Night-Ride Case

BY CLARKE STALLWORTH
Post-Herald Staff Writer

PELL CITY, June 28—A Circuit Court jury here today sentenced white-faced Charles Carlisle Jr., 25, to five years imprisonment for participating in the night-rider slaying of Charlie Hurst.

The jury, which had deliberated since yesterday afternoon, decided at 2:26 p.m. that Carlisle was guilty of first degree manslaughter.

Judge J. H. Disque suspended the trial of Claude Luker, Talladega furniture dealer, also charged with the Hurst killing, to hear the jury return the verdict against Carlisle, a Pell City textile worker.

First Conviction

Carlisle's conviction marked the first time a defendant has been found guilty of mob participation since the Ku Klux Klan and night-riding gangs became active in the Spring of 1949.

W. A. Weaver and Norman Moon, attorneys for Carlisle, filed notice of appeal.

Carlisle heard his conviction with little show of emotion. His wife, who sat with him throughout his two-day trial, was absent from the courtroom when Carlisle was declared guilty.

During Luker's trial, prosecutors were trying to connect Luker to the Hurst slaying on the basis of a bullet hole in Luker's car.

Bill Heath, young Talladega glass cutter, testified he fitted a new window into Luker's car on Feb. 22, the night Hurst was shot down in his front yard three miles west of Pell City.

Quotes Uncle

Heath said his uncle, Roy Heath, and Luker asked him to fix the window which had a bullet hole in it. The witness quoted his uncle as saying:

"I got a job for you, and I want you to keep your mouth shut about it."

Heath said that when he asked his uncle: "What's wrong? You take somebody for a ride?" Roy Heath replied gruffly: "Yes."

Heath said the gas cap from the Luker auto was missing the night he fixed the glass. During Carlisle's trial, State Investigator Ben Allen testified he found a gas cap in the driveway of the Hurst home about three hours after Hurst was killed.

Other witnesses in Luker's trial today retold the story of Hurst's slaying.

Son Testifies Again

Howard Hurst, 19, son of the tubercular rolling store operator, repeated his description of the scene which he witnessed.

He said a man sitting in the back seat of the auto fired at him and his father, wounding Howard in the hip and striking his father twice in the chest.

In a confession introduced in the Carlisle trial, Carlisle named Luker as the driver of the auto which took five men to the Hurst house the night of the slaying.

Luker, dressed in a blue suit and a striped tie, sat with his wife, silently watching proceedings. They both chewed gum vigorously.

Defense attorneys, headed by Roderick Beddow, of Birmingham, conducted a gruelling cross-examination of all state witnesses called today.

The trial will continue at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Kluxer Cleared In Murder Case

Advertiser

Jury Acquits Luke Of Slaying Charge; Deliberates 59 Minutes

PELL CITY, ALA., June 30—(AP)—A furniture dealer identified as a Ku Klux Klansman Friday was acquitted of a murder charge in a night rider slaying.

Sat. 7-1-50

The jury received the case of Claude Luker, 52, at 3:59 p.m., after hearing a state plea to "let the people know that night riding mobs have not taken over in St. Clair County."

Montgomery

It reported a verdict freeing Luker 59 minutes later.

Luker and his wife wept as the foreman read the verdict.

He was charged with being a member of an unmasked band that called Charlie Hurst from his home the night of Feb. 22 and shot him down when he resisted. Hurst was a country rolling store operator.

Luker Voices Denial

Luker denied from the stand Friday that he was with the mob. He said he was watching a television show at his brother's home at the time Hurst was killed.

The Talladega furniture store operator also testified that he had let Klansman Roy Heath use his automobile that night. The state had introduced witnesses to show the night riders used Lukers car.

Heath killed himself four days after the Hurst slaying. He told members of his family he feared the Klan would try to put all the blame for the slaying on him.

Hurst Killing

Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall said Hurst was killed by "a bunch of gangsters." He said "Luker met his fellow Klansmen at the Choccolocco Bridge (near Pell City). The Klansmen completed details . . . and went to the Hurst home."

In another closing argument, County Solicitor Frank Embry called the slaying "one of the most brutal, cowardly and heinous crimes."

He said it was "in open defiance of the laws of your state," and asked for a verdict "that will be a warning and deter other men from operating in your county as an invisible government."

Trials in slaying of Charles Hurst get under way

PELL CITY, Ala., June 26—Trial of the first of five men charged with the night gang slaying of a Pell City rolling store operator got under way here today.

Accused in the slaying of Charles Hurst, a tubercular who was shot down in his yard Feb. 22, are the Rev. Alvin Horn, Ku Klux Klan organizer; Charlie Carlisle, Jr., Pell City; C. M. Hunter, Pell City; Albert Wilson, Talladega, and Claude Luker, Talladega.

Most of the defendents were accompanied by members of their families when they were brought into court this morning.

Circuit Judge J. H. Disque ordered that only the 100 men on the jury panel and members of families of the defendants be allowed in the courtroom.

6-26-50

More than 400 persons had gathered at the courthouse this morning, expecting to hear the trial. They soon left after it was learned they would not be admitted to the courtroom.

Hurst was slain by a group who came to his home at night and tried to force him into an auto.

Two pistol bullets dropped him after he and his son, Howard, 19, tried to ward off the attackers. Howard was shot in the hip, but his wound was not serious.

SAMUEL ROPER, head of the Georgia Klans, has made several trips into Alabama since Horn's arrest.

One of the defendants, Carlisle, brought a halt to a preliminary hearing several weeks ago when he said he was afraid to tell his story from the witness chair.

Carlisle appeared to be in good spirits when he came into court this morning. He smiled and spoke to a number of acquaintances.

About 150 defense witnesses are expected to be called. Included will be the sons of Roy Heath, Talladega foundry worker, who killed himself a few days after the mob slaying.

* * *

REPRESENTING THE DEFENDANTS are Attys. Roderick Beddow, Ernest Jones, Birmingham; Thurston Starnes and Ed Holladay, Pell City; W. A. Weaver, Pell City; John Robinson, Ashville, and Harold Moon, Birmingham.

Prosecuting are County Solicitor Frank Embry and Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall. The cases will be heard by Circuit Judge J. H. Disque.

Most of today's activities were expected to be devoted to legal points and selection of a jury.

Jury Deliberates Hurst Slaying Case

Post-Herald Wed. 6-28-50

Birmingham, Ala.

Panel Retires With Signed Confession From Charles Carlisle In Night-Ride Death

BY CLARKE STALLWORTH
Post-Herald Staff Writer

PELL CITY, June 27—The murder trail of Charles Carlisle Jr. who is charged with participating in the night-ride slaying of Charlie Hurst Feb. 22, went to a Circuit Court jury at 5:41 p.m. today.

When the jury retired to decide Carlisle's future, they took with them a signed confession written by Carlisle an hour after his arrest on March 8.

27a

In the confession, Carlisle named himself, C. M. Hunter, Claude Luker, a "Mr. Heath and a slim fellow named Wilson" as being in the car that drove to the Hurst home the night of the slaying.

The confession did not mention the Rev. Alvin Horn, who with four of the men named in the statement, is charged with murder. The "Heath" referred to in the latter was apparently Roy Heath who committed suicide in Talladega four days after the Hurst slaying.

Lost Battle

Carlisle's confession was admitted as evidence after a long and vigorous losing battle by the defendant's attorneys, W. A. Weaver of Pell City and Harold S. Moon of Birmingham.

The jury went to supper at 6:35 p.m. and announced it would not consider the case any further tonight. Jurors will sleep in the courtroom again as they did Monday night.

The two lawyers maintained that Carlisle had been induced by State Investigator Ben Allen to sign the statement. Allen denied he promised to aid Carlisle in any way.

The introduction of the confession as evidence was the highlight of the two-day trial. Immediately after Circuit Judge J. H. Disque ruled that the statement could be used as evidence, the state rested in a dramatic move which caught the defense off guard.

They asked for a court adjournment in order to summon witnesses.

Defense Calls Witnesse

The defense offered no evidence in Carlisle's behalf other than the testimony of a half dozen character witnesses who said that to the best of their knowledge Carlisle's reputation was good, and he liked "peace and quiet."

The entire defense took up barely more than 10 minutes.

In summing up the case Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall did not ask for the death penalty for Carlisle.

Post-Herald

"I would like for you gentlemen of the jury to fix the punishment as you see fit," Solicitor Randall said.

Message To Others

He said that a conviction of Carlisle would be a message to other would-be wrong doers to steer clear of St. Clair County.

Atty. Moon, summing up for the defense, asked the jury to disregard the confession of Carlisle.

"You men must know how that confession was obtained," he said. "The Big Allen in a locked room with the simple young boy on trial here today."

While he pleaded with the jury, the young, slender Moon waved his arms back and forth and occasionally skipped from one end of the jury box to the other.

The crowded courtroom often smiled at his movements.

In his charge to the jury, Judge Disque explained the various degrees of manslaughter and murder.

When he explained that a verdict of guilty of first degree murder meant death in the electric chair or life imprisonment, the 25-year-old defendant did not change expression.

Wed. 6-28-50

Attention Wanders

During Judge Disque's charge, the attention of the audience which had been riveted to the fast-moving courtroom drama, wandered. Fans in the audience began to weave a little slower and a few heads nodded drowsily.

Carlisle himself took the stand yesterday morning during the midst of the state's evidence to proclaim that State Investigator Ben Allen had offered to speak to Donald Comer to make sure the defendant kept his job at Avondale Mills in Pell City.

Attorneys Moon and Weaver claimed this was what prompted Carlisle to sign the confession.

The confession which Carlisle signed read:

State Exhibit No. 1, March 8, 1950, St. Clair County Jail.

I, John Carlisle Jr., address No. 2, Beach-st, Mill Village, Pell City, do wish to make the following free and voluntary statement to the writer who has identified himself to me as B. L. Allen, investigator, State of Alabama, Department of Public Safety, without promise of reward or threat or intimidation whatsoever.

On Wednesday night, Feb. 22, 1950, at approximately 6 p.m., me and G. H. Hunter met a 1941 maroon Chevrolet automobile at the Talladega end of Chocolocco Creek Bridge. Near where building is. It looked like a filling station or store (this meeting was pre-arranged but I honestly don't remember by who or when.

When we arrived, which was some time after dark, these three were already there. (I left my car at the drug store near the picture show) and rode out with Mr. Hunter. We stood and talked a few minutes about where we were going and who we were going after (Charlie Hurst).

Loaded In Car

All of us loaded up in the car and drove directly to Charlie Hurst's home. (A man who I know and recognized as Charlie Luker was driving the car. Me and Mrs. Heath were sitting in the back.

I was sitting on the left back and Mr. Heath on the right. Mr. Luker was driving, Mr. Hunter was next to the driver, and a slim fellow named Wilson sat on the outside,

Wilson called Charlie to the door and Mr. Hunter was supposed (and did) try to get him in the car. I didn't get out of the car, but I saw they were having some trouble and the next thing I knew Mr. Heath started shooting after Charlie shot at us. (I did not have a pistol that night). So far as I know Heath was the only man who did any shooting and I honestly don't know how many shots he fired.

Charlie shot three times into the front of the car. He was about four or five feet from the car when he started shooting. I hunkered down in the car and stayed that way until we got back to town and in my car.

Began Driving Off

Luker started driving off as soon as the shooting started. Wilson ran and jumped into the car and Hunter was the man we run off and left out there.

I don't know where he went to. When we got to the highway we turned left and went toward Anniston until we got just over the Spanish Garden hill, where we turned around and cam back to where my car was parked.

Birmingham, Ala.

Luker, Wilson and Heath let me out at my car and I went straight home. I swear Heath was the one and only one who did any shooting.

About the only talking I remember doing after Charlie Hurst was shot was me telling Luker to turn around and take me back to my car. I have not been contacted by anyone since that time about the case and have not told anybody anything about it.

I have read and initiated the above statement consisting of four page and have found it to be true and correct.

My only reason for making this statement is because I want to come clean and tell the truth.

CHARLES CARLISLE JR.
Witnessed by B. L.

Convicted Man Refuses To Talk In Night Rider Slaying Trial

Advertiser

Fri. 6-30-50

PELL CITY, ALA., June 29—(AP)—A textile worker convicted in a night rider slaying Thursday refused to testify against a co-defendant.

Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24, who was given a five-year sentence Wednesday, declined Thursday to take the stand at the murder trial of Claude Luker, 52-year-old Talladega furniture store operator.

They and three other men were indicted in the slaying of Charlie Hurst, county rolling store operator, at his home near Pell City the night of Feb. 22 by five unmasked men.

Montgomery, Ala.

Others awaiting trial are the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega Baptist minister and organizer for the Georgia Association of Klans; C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer and ex-city police officer, and Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer.

A statement signed by Carlisle and introduced as evidence at his trial said he was accompanied on the raid by Luker, Hunter, Wilson and Roy Heath, a Talladega Klansman who committed suicide four days after the slaying.

Carlisle was brought into court at Luker's trial under subpoena Thursday. After a conference with attorneys, he refused to testify.

Heath's widow earlier testified that he was a Klansman. Officers said before Heath died he told his family that he was on the raid and feared the others "are going to try to pin it all on me."

The state sought to link a 1941 car officers confiscated from Luker as the one in which the five men drove to the Hurst home.

After the state rested defense attorneys then placed Luker's sister-in-law, Mrs. J. G. Luker, on the stand. She said her brother-in-law came to her home about 6 p.m. Feb. 22, the night of the raid, and remained there until about 8:30 p.m.

Officers said the shooting happened about 7:30 .m.

Mrs. Luker said her brother-in-law talked with her and watched the television.

Klansman Gets 5 Years In Night-Rider Slaying

Courier-Journal

Pell City, Ala., June 28 (AP)—A young Ku Klux Klansman today was convicted of manslaughter in a night-rider slaying. The jury fixed his punishment at five years in prison.

27a

Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24, Pell City, was found guilty in the slaying of Charlie Hurst, a country rolling-store operator, last February 22.

Thurs. 6-29-50

Was First Conviction

The conviction was the first in Alabama since an outbreak of floggings and cross burnings during the spring of 1949. Five flogging trials have been held at Birmingham without a conviction.

A statement signed by Carlisle was admitted in evidence yesterday. The document said Carlisle was a member of the unmasked band that killed Hurst.

Louisville, Ky.

Carlisle's statement charged that a Klansman who committed suicide four days after the Hurst slaying actually fired the shots that killed the storekeeper.

The trial of a second defendant, Claude Luker, was started while the jury was considering Carlisle's case

8035

KKK Official To Be Arrainged

27a

PELL CITY, ALA., May 17.—(AP)—A Ku Klux Klan official and four other men will be arraigned Thursday on murder charges in a night rider slaying last February.

The five will make formal pleas, after which the cases can be placed on the court docket for trial. They were indicted in the fatal shooting Feb. 22 of Charlie Hurst, country rolling store operator at his home.

Hurst was shot down as he fought to keep four or five unmasked men from dragging him into an automobile. A few minutes before the shooting, Hurst told a son, Howard, 19, "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." The son was wounded in the hip.

Officers working on the case said no motive was established for the raid.

The five, held without bond in St. Clair County jails here and in Ashville, are:

The Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega Baptist minister and Kleagle (organizer) for the Georgia Association of Klans; Claude Luker, Talladega furniture store operator; C. M. Hunter, Pell City Mattress manufacturer and former police officer; Charlie Carlisle, Pell City textile worker, and Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer.

Advertiser 5-18-50

Montgomery Ala

Trial Date Set For Klan Official

27a Ala

PELL CITY, ALA., May 18—(AP)—Circuit Judge J. H. Discue, Jr., Thursday set the trial date of a Klan official and four other men charged with a night rider murder to start June 26.

27a Ala

The accused men entered formal pleas of innocent at their arraignment in the slaying of Charlie Hurst, a country rolling store operator, last Feb. 22.

Judge Discue ordered the men held without bond until their trials.

Advertiser

Accused are the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega Baptist preacher and Kleagle (organizer) for the Georgia Association of Klans; Claude Luker, Talladega furniture store operator; C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer and a former Pell City police officer; Charlie Carlisle, Pell City textile worker, and Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer.

Hurst was wounded fatally in an exchange of gunfire with a group of unmasked men who came to his home. Before the bullets started flying, he told a son, "it looks like the Kluxers are after me."

The son, Howard, 19, was shot, but recovered.

Montgomery Ala

Trial starts Monday in Hurst mob slaying

Lynching

PELL CITY, Ala., June 24—One of the most sensational cases in St. Clair County history will start here Monday when five men face trial for the night-gang murder of a Pell City rolling store operator.

Each of the five is charged with first-degree murder in the pistol shooting of Charlie Hurst, 38.

Hurst, a tubercular, was shot down in his front yard Feb. 22 by a mob of men who came to his home at bedtime, tried to force him into their car.

News

He was felled by two pistol bullets as he and his 19-year-old son, Howard, tried to ward off the attackers.

27a

Howard was shot in the hip. His wounds were not serious.

The five defendants include the Rev. Alvin Horn, Baptist minister and the state's No. 1 Klansman. Horn, a tall, stoop-shouldered man with icy blue eyes, preaches at several rural Talladega County churches and is kleagle (organizer) for the Georgia Association of Ku Klux Klans.

Ala

SAMUEL ROPER, head of the Georgia Klans, has made several trips into Alabama in Horn's behalf since his arrest a few days after Hurst was shot.

The other four accused men are: Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24, textile plant employe of Pell City; C. M. Hunter, elderly mattress manufacturer, Pell City; Albert Wilson, 32, Talladega County farmer, and Claude Luker, Talladega furniture merchant.

Carlisle, a nervous, san[illegible] haired youth, electrified hundreds of spectators at a preliminary hearing several weeks ago when he indicated he was afraid to tell his story from the witness chair.

The youth's extreme nervousness brought a postponement in the proceedings. He is the son of a minister.

6-24-50

ONE OF THE BIGGEST arrays of legal talent ever to join in a defense in this state has been retained for the defendants. The attorneys include Roderick Beddow and Ernest Jones, senior partners of Beddow & Jones in Birmingham, Thurston Starnes and Ed Holladay, of Pell City; W. A. Weaver, Pell City; Harold Moon, Birmingham, and John Robinson, of Ashville.

Among the 150 witnesses expected to be called are the five sons of Roy Heath, Talladega foundry worker who killed himself a few days after the mob slaying.

Heath had told his sons, they said, that he was on the ride, and that he was afraid "they would pin it on me." The boys said he told them that "some big men" were in on the ride.

HEATH SHOT HIMSELF while his wife was at church services. He was a Klansman.

Carlisle also has been a Klansman, he said.

Luker denies he is a Klansman or has been one.

The cases will be heard by Circuit Judge J. H. Disque.

County Solicitor Frank Embry and Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall will prosecute. They will have no help.

Mr. Embry said several hundred persons are expected to try to get into the small, second floor courtroom for the trial.

The room is poorly ventilated and has only one exit.

Highway patrolmen will be on hand to maintain order and as a precautionary measure. Sentiment, both for and against the defendants, is high in St. Clair.

Youth Tells How Nightriders Shot His Father To Death

Lynching Case

PELL CITY, ALA., June 26.—(AP)—A 19-year-old youth told from the witness stand Monday how is father was shot to death by a band of nightriders last February.

Advertiser

The testimony was given by Howard Hurst at the trial of Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24.

Carlisle, former textile mill worker, is the first to stand trial of five men charged with murder in the slaying of Charlie Hurst, country rolling store operator. The other four include the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega Baptist minister and organizer for the Georgia Association of Ku Klux Klans.

June 27

Montgomery Ala

Howard Hurst quoted his father as saying just before he went outside to his death: "It looks like the Ku Klux are after me." Young Hurst himself was wounded in the hip in the fight with the night riders.

He said he took a .22 caliber rifle and ran out of the house after he heard his father shout.

"Two men were holding daddy by the arms," Howard said. "They turned him loose when I walked toward them."

He said he tried to fire the rifle "but it wouldn't go off." His father snatched the gun and fired into a car in which the men had arrived.

Howard said he saw the light shine on a pistol held by a man in the back of the car. "That was all I knew for two or three minutes," he said, adding that the first bullet from the car apparently wounded him.

The youth told the court that when he regained consciousness, he found his father lying wounded alongside of him.

Dr. R. A. Martin, who treated the elder Hurst at a Pell City hospital for chest wounds, said "he asked me if he had a chance and I told he didn't."

"He said it wasn't the Klan, that the Klan didn't do that kind of stuff," the physician said.

W. L. Allen, a state investigator who worked on the case, was on the stand when court recessed. The officer said Carlisle gave him and another officer three separate statements, one verbal, one written and another that was recorded on a tape recorder.

He did not disclose the contents while he was on the stand.

In addition to Carlisle and Horn, these men were indicted for murder in the case: Claude Luker, Talladega furniture store operator. C. M. Hunter, Pell City matterss manufacturer and former Pell City police officer, and Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer.

Kluxer Guilty In Slaying Case

Lynching Case

Defendant In Killing At Pell City Meted 5 Years In Prison

PELL CITY, ALA., June 28.—(AP)—A young textile worker identified as a Ku Klux Klansman Wednesday was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in a night rider slaying.

The manslaughter conviction was the first in Alabama since in wave of floggings and cross burnings by hooded and white-robed bands during the Spring of 1949. Five flogging trials have been held in Birmingham so far without a conviction.

The defendant, Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24, of Pell City, was indicted for murder but the circuit court jury reduced the charge to manslaughter. It reported the guilty verdict in mid-afternoon while a second murder trial in the same case was under way.

Advertiser

Defense attorneys filed notice of appeal. The attorneys, W. A. Weaver and Norman E. Moon, said they probably would appeal the decision. No appeal bond was set by the court.

The jury received the Carlisle case late Tuesday.

Thurs 6-29-50

Carlisle was charged in the gun-slaying of Charlie Hurst, a country rolling store operator, by an unmasked gang the night of Feb. 22.

Hurst was killed as he fought to keep from being dragged into an automobile at his home near Pell City. Five men, including a Klan official, were indicted for murder.

Montgomery Adv.

High point of Carlisle's trial came Tuesday when Judge J. H. Disque permitted the state to introduce in evidence a statement signed by Carlisle.

This statement said Carlisle was a member of the band on the fatal ride and witnessed the shooting. The document accused Roy Heath of firing the fatal bullets.

Heath, a Talledega Klansman. committed suicide at his home Feb. 26, four days after the ride. Before he shot himself, he told members of his family that he was on the ride and feared that the others wpuld seek to place all the blame on him.

Carlisle's statement also named Claude Luker, Talladega furniture dealer; C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer and ex-city police officer; and Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer.

These men and the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega County Baptist minister and Kleagle (organizer) for the Georgia Association of Klans, were indicted by the county grand jury.

All except Horn have been held without bond since their arrest. Horn was released after a habeas corpus hearing.

The state offered testimony by H. C. Roe, an admitted Klansman who said Carlisle also was a member of the white-robed order at the time of the slaying

While the Carlisle jury was still deliberating, another jury was completed shortly before noon to hear the case against Luker, accused by the state of driving the car on the night of the fatal ride.

Statement Accuses Suicide Of Nightrider Slaying

27 a

PELL CITY, ALA., June 27—(AP)—A signed statement by a textile worker that he was a member of a night rider band that shot down a country storekeeper was admitted in evidence Tuesday sa his trial on a charge of murder.

Advertiser

The statement accused a Ku Klux Klansman, who committed suicide four days later, of firing the shots that killed Charlie Hurst at his home near Pell City the night of Feb. 22.

Ala

It bore the signature of Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24 on trial in the Hurst slaying. Carlisle earlier was identified as a Klansman.

State Officer Ben Allen also testified that Carlisle signed it.

The document named four other men as being with Carlisle on the fatal ride. One was Klansman Roy Heath, who shot himself to death at his Talladega home Feb. 26.

The others named were C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer and former city police officer who also was identified as a Klansman; Claude Luker, Talladega furniture dealer, and Albert Wilson, young Talladega County farmer.

Wed

Hunter, Luker, Wilson and the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega Baptist minister and Kleagle (organizer) for the Georgia Association of Klans, are awaiting trial on murder charges.

6-28-50

The statement was admitted in evidence by Judge J. A Disque over strenuous objections by Defense Atty. W. A. Weaver., The trial was delayed several hours by the legal objections.

The document said Carlisle met Hunter that night.

"This meeting was prearranged, but I honestly cannot remember by who (sic) or when," the statement continued. "When we arrived, which was some time after dark, three men were already there.

"We stood and talked a few minutes about where we was going, and who we was going after.

"All of us sitting on the left back and Mr. Heath was on the right. Mr. Luker was driving. And a slim fellow named Wilson called Charley (Charley Hurst).

"I didn't get out of the car, but I saw they was having some trouble, and the next thing I knew Mr. Heath started shooting—after Charley shot at us. I did not have a pistol that night.

"So far as I know, Heath was the only man that did any shooting and I honestly don't know how many shots he fired. Charlie fired three times into the front of the car.

Montgomery

"He was about four or five from the car when he started shooting.

Ala.

"I hunkered down in the car and stayed that way until we got back to town. Luker started driving off as the shooting started. Wilson ran and jumped in the car and Hunter was the man we ran off and left out there I don't know where he went to when we got to the highway.

"I swear Heath was the one and only one that did any shooting."

Heath, before he killed himself with a shotgun charge, told members of his family that he was on the raid that night and that the others would try to blame him for the slaying.

The state rested after introduction of the statement There was no testimony as to why the men had gone to the Hurst home.

Howard Hurst, 19-year-old son of the slain man, previously testified that his father was shot down as he fought to keep from being dragged into the car.

Young Hurst, who himself was wounded in the hip, told the court his father snatched a 22 caliber rifle from his hands and fired into the automobile.

H. C. Rode, who said he was a Klansman, testified earlier that Carlisle and Hunter were members of the Klan.

The widow of the slain man, Mrs. Elsie Hurst, also told the court she saw her husband fatally wounded in the front yard of their small home near Pell City.

Trial of Luker Starts; Carlisle jury is still out

BY DAN COBB
News staff writer

PELL CITY, Ala., June 28—Trial of Claude Luker on a charge of murder in the gang slaying of Charlie Hurst began today.

As Luker's trial started, another jury was still deliberating in the case of Charlie Carlisle, Jr. The Carlisle case went to the jury at 5:41 p.m. yesterday. He was charged with murder in the Hurst killing.

News

A jury for the Luker trial was selected at 11:30 a.m. today.

* * *

A STATEMENT SUBMITTED as evidence yesterday and signed by Carlisle named Luker as driver of the car which went to the Hurst home on the night of Feb. 22.

Wed 6-28-50

Hurst was shot down in his front yard that night.

If Carlisle is convicted, he will be the first person found guilty of participating in mob violence since a resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan and night-riding gangs in the Spring of 1949.

Birmingham

IMMEDIATELY AFTER the jury returns its verdict to Circuit Judge J. H. Disque, the state is prepared to try Claude Luker, Talladega furniture merchant on the same charge in the same case.

Ala

Highlight of the 10 hours of trial was admission as evidence of a confession signed by Carlisle a few hours after his arrest on March 8.

The defense made a vigorous, losing effort to prevent admission of the confession.

Immediately after Judge Disque ruled the statement into the records, the state rested its case. This apparently caught the defense off the guard.

Attys. Norman E. Moon and W. A Weaver then called a series of character witnesses in Carlisle's behalf. The 25-year-old former textile worker never took the stand in his defense, except to give brief testimony about how the statement was obtained.

News

SINCE HE WAS NOT questioned directly about the Hurst shooting or the trip to the Hurst home, which he had admitted making with four other men, the state was not allowed to cross-examine him on this phase of the evidence.

Carlisle told the court that State Investigator Ben Allen promised to help him retain his job as an employe of the Pell City plant of Avondale Mills if he would make a statement.

Allen denied it.

Wed 6-28-50

The defense also sought to establish that Carlisle was in a highly nervous frame of mind during the questioning and tried to prove that the youth had not been informed correctly of the charge against him.

Carlisle and his dark-haired, shapely wife testified that the arresting officer, St. Clair Deputy Tollie Lockridge, had told him only that he was wanted for questioning.

Lockridge had testified that he informed Carlisle that he was being arrested on a charge of murder in the first degree.

* * *

THE DEFENDANT'S CONFESSION admitted that he had been on the ride to the Hurst home. It said the meeting of the five men was pre-arranged. But, he said, "I honestly cannot remember" who arranged it or when it was worked out.

The statement said Claude Luker was driving the car. He also named a "Mr. Heath," a "slim fellow named Wilson," and "Mr. Hunter."

Also charged with murder in the case are Luker, C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer: Albert Wilson, Talladega farmer, and Alvin Horn, Ku Klux Klan organizer.

The confession did not mention Horn, who also is a Baptist minister.

* * *

THE STATE OFFERED no evidence trying to prove that Carlisle was a Klansman at the time of the slaying.

H. C. Roe, who identified himself as a Klansman, told the court that both Carlisle and Luker were members of the Klan at that time.

Roe said he drove Carlisle to Choccolocco Bridge where the gang allegedly began their ride to the Hurst home.

Birmingham News

* * *

SUMMING UP THE CASE before the jury, Defense Atty. Weaver "assumed" that Carlisle was on the fatal ride. He asked the jury to consider that he could have been "inveigled" into making the trip by "men older than he is."

Ala

Weaver and Atty. Moon called Carlisle "a simple little boy." Weaver called the night-ride an "unfortunate trip."

Weaver said: "I don't know why he got in the car. . . . What was in his mind when he got in that car? . . . A young boy like that probably would be persuaded by somebody older than he is. . . . This purported confession was procured in such a manner that it ought not to be accepted by any jury in Alabama, much less a jury in St. Clair County."

27 a

* * *

CIRCUIT SOLICITOR Leland Randall asked the jury to decide the degree of guilt and fix the punishment. He indirectly asked the jury make an example of the defendant.

Ala

Mr. Randall reminded the jury its verdict should not only "be such as to require him to pay his debt to society" but to "deter others who might start out on a similar unlawful act."

Atty. Moon preceded Weaver in the summation. He spoke more than 40 minutes, mostly criticizing state officers and frequently pausing to drink water from a tall glass at the judge's bench. He once in a while tripped lightly up and down in front of the jury, causing the audience to titter.

* * *

JUDGE DISQUE'S CHARGE to the jury explained that the indictment against Carlisle was on a first-degree murder charge including charges of second degree murder, first degree manslaughter and second degree manslaughter.

He explained the law relating to each charge and the punishment for each on conviction of each.

Judge Disque also told the jury that it was their duty to convict if the state has proven "beyond a reasonable" doubt that Carlisle is guilty.

His long, simply worded charge also explained that by reasonable doubt, the law means proof to a "moral certainty. Not to a mathematical certainty, gentlemen, because we are dealing with human affairs."

St. Clair County Solicitor Frank Embry asked the jury to "anch your verdict in the truth."

27a 1950

8036

Alabama

Hipp-Kelley Lynching (1892)

THE PASSING THRONG
BY ATTICUS MULLIN

Advertiser – ~~Alabama Journal~~

Coming back from the Baldwin potato tour I learned some more about Hipp and Kelley. I stopped for a moment or two to converse with my friend Bill Garrett of Uriah. Bill told me he had been interested in the stories which appeared in the Passing Throng about these two men because one or them, or perhaps both, killed his uncle at Georgiana back around 1892.

27a

According to Garrett, his uncle's body was found close to a railroad track near Georgiana.

"The man or men had shot him in the mouth, in the eyes and through the ears. He had evidently seen too much, heard too much and perhaps talked more than the man thought wise" said Bill. "Anyhow we did not learn who the murderers were until a year or two afterwards. And the funny thing about it is that Hipp, who owned a fine horse and a nice buggy, rode the widow of my uncle to the funeral and burial. I think that showed the kind of nerve or gall he had."

Jour 4-16-50

Bill did not know that one of the men was captured in Monroe County by a farmer. But he said he was a boy 10 or 11 years ago when his uncle was killed and he knew a good deal about it from what he had heard his living uncles say.

Montgomery
Ala.

But, going back to the potato tour, I found out Saturday that the L&N has already began stacking up refrigerator cars along the Fort Morgan branch of the road in anticipation of the early movement of the potatoes. As I said in another article, the potatoes will begin to move around May 1 and by the tenth of May will be in full flood.

Nobody in Baldwin has yet had the hardihood to predict what the opening price will be but several experts told me down there they expected the price to be beyond the government guarantee of 90 cents a bushel, or $1.80 per sack. They thing the fresh and new Baldwin potatoes, if they beat those from California to the market, will command a premium. But all of this may be wishful thinking.

* * *

'Uncle Bud' Is Grown

"Uncle Bud" that chubby, small-town wisecracker and sage you see every afternoon in The Alabama Journal, will be four years old come July first, so Bill Baldwin, the originator and author of the humor panel informed this column.

"I don't know just which one of the zodic sign Uncle Bud was born under, but surely it must have been the one which presages ill-luck, the author said, explaining that Bud was born right at the peak of the worst newsprint shortage in the history of the country. Bill pointed out that the shortage was so acute when Uncle Bud made his entry into the world, daily newspapers all over the country were canceling feature contracts instead of making new ones. Now that the paper situation has improved somewhat, and publishers generally speaking have about adjusted themselves to the situation and gone back to more normal way of life, an intensive drive to put the feature in papers all over the country will be made in the near future, Baldwin explained.

"Now that Bud has reached an age which classes it as an established feature and is now out of its embryo stage, the New York syndicate and I feel that now is the time to let Uncle Bud step out with the oldest and best of them and take its place in the sun," Baldwin continued.

Uncle Bud is now appearing in papers in eight states, and is said to be extremely popular wherever it appears. This column knows that it has a wide following in The Journal's territory.

* * *

Where Is Howard?

Along comes an anonymous writer and challenges Bill Griffin on the assertion that Howard C. Smith is now sojourning at Butler Springs. He says there is no place to sojourn at Butler Springs. He suggests instead that Howard Smith may be found at Bladen Springs in Choctaw County. He says Bladen Springs is not only a health resort but a good place to find snakes upon which Howard "experts." He adds that Choctaw County had the only producing oil wells in the State and that if Howard is in the oil business and is doing any good at it he would have to be in Choctaw.

All of which sounds pretty good. Maybe, after all, Bill Griffin will have to write another article in his Exchange Club bulletin and get the address of Howard right.

* * *

Remembers Lynching

Dr. J. M. Glenn of Midway was born and reared in Butler County and has heard all about the Hipp-Kelley lynching. He has written a letter to J. A. Knight of McKenzie regarding the matter. It was Mr. Knight who started all of this row about Hipp and Kelley. Regarding the matter Dr. Glenn writes Mr. Knight:

27a

"In yesterday's Passing Throng you mentioned the Hipp-Kelly matter in Butler County. I could give a good deal about it, as I knew several of the persons involved. I think it better for me to hold back and let somebody in Greenville tell about it. If someone does not, I can do so.

"I am a native of Greenville. My maternal ancestors came to Butler County in January, 1819, before Alabama became a state—the Herberts, Dunklins and Bollings, and my Reid ancestor the next year. It was James Dunklin, my great-great-grandfather who changed the name of Buttsville to Greenville.

"Really both Hipp and Kelley were lynched—both hanged to the front of the (old) court house. A winding stair on both sides led from the ground to a small porch above, with an iron railing, and from that both bodies were found suspended one morning—after Hipp and Kelley had been put in jail. They had established a reign of terror, and Chief Jim Porterfield, of Greenville, had wounded one of them before their capture, shooting him through the cab-window of a locomotive on a log road. Dr. Harrison, who attended the wounded man in jail, said that soon he would have died anyway. There were two marriages in Greenville that night, but the execution was so quiet that it is said that the residents were much surprised the next morning to find the two suspended bodies.'

"Among other things, the two men were said to be the ones who, after blacking their faces, shot, killed and robbed Tax-Collector Armstrong, a one-legged Confederate veteran, on a creek bridge. Also they were accused of other crimes of outlawry."

He Saw That Lynching

A letter comes from Louis T Sims, justice of the peace of Red Level in which Mr. Sims says something about the bandits Hipp and Kelley. He was in Greenville the night of the lynching. He says in his letter:

Advertiser 1892
Ala

"Dear Atticus:

"In your column under date of April 10 I saw an inquiry about the days of Hipp and Kelley. Now for yours' and Mr. Knight's information I was born and reared to manhood in the town of Georgiana where the activities of John Hipp and Charley Kelley were started.

W 27a
4-19-50

"The first real crimes charged to these two vandals was that of widespread illegal sale of liquors. These led to more crimes and felonies, the first of which took place with the murder of a Negro woman at or near Georgiana where the M. E. Church now stands. The next was the slaying of a man named Dunn; next, an old man, Joe Touart, in his store on the east side of the L. and N. in Georgiana. The next killing was that of Uncle Thomas Shepherd and his wife a few miles northwest of town. The next and last murder charged to these men was a one-legged tax collector, Jake Armstrong. Soon after this a posse was formed in Greenville, headed by Greenville's police chief, James Porterfield, and on a long to be remembered day this posse came to Georgiana where it took on more recruits. Part of the posse proceeded to Hipp's home several miles west of town. Chief Porterfield with several members went on to Dunham, three miles south of town. This was the home of the Dunham Lumber Company. Upon arrivel at this mill town the posse learned that John Hipp was in town, having come to get a shipment of liquor. Hipp soon learned of their presence, and their mission. He at once arranged with a Mr. Mason, who was locomotive engineer for the mill company and pulled a log train on the company's road which passed near Hipp's home. Hipp left Dunhan on foot and was to travel the log road and be picked up by the log train when it overtook him on his way back to the woods. But Chief Porterfield contacted Capt. B. B. McKenzie of the mill company, who arranged for a gondola car to be coupled next to the engine of the log train. Porterfield and his men loaded themselves into the gondola and when Hipp flagged the train out near Dry Creek, the engineer stopped the train for Hopp to get aboard. Chief Porterfield raised up out of the gondola with his gun and ordered Hipp to surrender. Hipp did not do so and Porterfield fired and one buckshot hit him in the head; the others struck the steam chest of the engine. Hipp fell to the ground and was disarmed and brought back to Dunham. He was carried to Greenville that afternoon on Number 4 and placed in jail. A few days later Charley Kelley was captured in Monroe County and he was placed in the Greenville jail. Kelley confessed to everything and every crime in which he and Hipp took part. That night Hipp and Kelley were taken from the jail and hanged in their night clothing. They hung from the front portico of the Greenville courthouse. The writer had for many years a piece of the rope from which both were hung. I also had a large group photo of them. I was in Greenville the night of the hanging."

Montgomery
Ala.

It looks like this letter from Red Level just about completes this column's file in the Hipp and Kelley case. Thanks, everybody, for your interest. It was real hot while it lasted.

8038

THE GRAVE DUG BY FEAR—Relatives of Roy Heath sat grimly silent as the Rev. Fred Brazier (standing with Bible at head of casket) committed the body to its grave in the Talladega Cemetery. The family is shown seated at right. Heath's sons and nephews said their father killed himself Sunday because he was in the gang that shot down Charlie Hurst and feared others in the car would "pin it all on me." With his last words, he asked his wife to "pray for me" as she started to church. Heath told his sons that he did not take part in the shooting of Hurst.

State Puts All Investigators Available On Hurst Slaying

Lynching

PELL CITY, Ala., March 3—State Safety Director Bankhead Bates today ordered all available state investigators to Pell City to help clear up the Charlie Hurst slaying.

The safety director said all investigators who could be spared from other sections of the state will remain on the scene until all members of the gang which shot Hurst down on Feb. 23 are apprehended.

Meanwhile, Alvin Horn and Claude Luker, charged with murder in the gang killing, remained in St. Clair County jail here.

News

NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN on their requests for preliminary hearings until the petition is put in writing.

3-3-50

Their attorneys Wednesday asked Justice of the Peace J. C. Meehan to set the preliminaries for tomorrow if possible, and no later than a week from tomorrow.

Judge Meehan said after talking with Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall that the requests will have to be put in writing.

HORN, A KLEAGLE in the Georgia Association of Ku Klux Klans, and Luker, a Talladega furniture merchant, were arrested Monday after relatives of Roy Heath told state investigators that Heath committed suicide because he felt that blame for the Hurst slaying would be "pinned on me."

His funeral was marked by the apparent absence of Klansmen. His sons said they recognized only a handful of "Kluxers" at the services, which were conducted by the Rev. Fred Brazier, pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Brent and former pastor of Heath's church.

The services were short. The Rev. Brazier spoke only 10 minutes, basing his sermon on the 27th verse of the ninth chapter of the Epistle of Paul, the Apostle, to the Hebrews.

That verse reads: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, after this comes the judgment."

He did not include in his text the following verse which concludes the chapter: "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him he shall appear the second time apart from sin unto salvation."

* * *

THE HEATH boys said they kept their eyes open for Klansmen at the funeral. They said Horn, who also is a Baptist minister, had offered to give their father a "big Klan funeral."

Seventy-seven cars followed the hearse to the grave in big, historic Talladega Cemetery. The final, graveside rites consisted only of a short prayer and the orthodox ritual that commits the body to the grave.

Earth was not used in the ritual. Instead the Rev. Brazier sprinkled the casket with greenery taken from the floral wreath that blanketed the gray casket.

Heath's sons and nephews said their father admitted being in the mob which rode to the Hurst home at bedtime, called him from the house and shot him down when he offered resistance with a .22 rifle. Heath lived in Talladega.

Hurst's son, Howard, 19, was shot in the hip when he tried to help his father defend himself against the five men in the gang.

The five Heath boys, whose lives were threatened shortly after they told their story, said Roy Heath told them he took no part in the shooting.

They said he had been a member of the Klan many years.

*

Besides Horn and Luker one other man has been taken into custody. Louis Harrison, cyclops of the Pell City Klavern of the Ku Klux Klan, was held as a material witness in the case.

He was released under $300 bond after he turned over to officers a list of members in his klavern. Harrison spent several hours in jail before agreeing to furnish the information.

The investigation was continuing today under direction of St. Clair Sheriff Ira Davis and State Investigators W. L. Allen and Ben Allen.

* * *

FUNERAL SERVICES for Heath were conducted yesterday at the North Street Wesleyan Methodist Church in Talladega. He helped build the church. Heath was licensed to preach by the Wesleyan Methodists.

Ex-Klansman's Suicide Starts Pell City Break

After Roy Heath Kills Himself, Relatives Tell Their Story

TALLADEGA, Ala., Feb. 28 — A suicide Sunday started the sensational turn of events that led to the arrest of Alabama's top Klansman and a prominent Talladega business man yesterday on murder charges.

It was not until Roy Heath, former Klansman, shot himself to death with a shotgun in his home that his relatives told what they said they knew.

279

*

THREE OF HIS SONS and a nephew said today that Heath admitted that he was in the car which went to the Hurst home and killed himself because he feared "four big shot business men planned to pin it "all on me."

The nephew, Bill Heath, said his uncle and Claude Luker came to the house on the night of the murder and asked him to put new glass in the right front window of a maroon Chevrolet.

Bill Heath is an employe of the M. & M. Glass Company shop here.

He said he asked his uncle and Luker to wait until morning, and that he was told that a "woman kicked out the window" and that they want the glass put in that night to keep down family trouble at home."

* * *

BILL HEATH said that "I noticed some holes in the window that looked like bullet holes. I also noticed that the gas cap was missing.

2-28-50

"I put in the glass and when I got through I delivered the car to 114½ Lancaster Avenue in Talladega." That was given as Luker's address.

"Somebody had taken Luker home."

He said he knew that his uncle belonged to the Ku Klux Klan "and I began asking him about it.

"He told me that there had been a little fireworks and that he didn't have any part of it."

The young man quoted his uncle as saying that he lay down in the back seat of the car when the shooting started.

BILL HEATH said that his uncle told him that "they are watching you" and asked him not to tell of fixing the glass in the car.

He said he replied that he would have to tell if "anybody ever asks me about it."

2-28-50

The sons, J. B., Clarence and Matthews said their father had cautioned them not to tell anybody, that "they'll get everyone of you. They are looking at you right now."

Clarence said his father killed himself soon after kissing Mrs. Heath goodbye as she started to church and asking: "Maude, pray for me."

The boys said Horn and Luker have been frequent visitors to their home since the shooting, and that Horn had proposed a "big Klan funeral" for his father.

J. B. SAID THAT Horn had told him to "tell nobody nothing."

He said the family did not consider a Klan funeral because the night before his father died, he tore up his Klan papers and denounced the organization.

J. B. Heath said Horn had told him there would be "thousands of Klansmen there from all over Alabama and Georgia, it would be one of the biggest Klan gatherings in the country."

SUICIDE CONFESSION JAILS 2 IN KLAN DEATH

ASHVILLE, Ala., Feb. 28 (UP)—A Ku Klux Klan organizer and a furniture dealer were charged with murder today because of the suicide-confession of a conscience stricken fellow Klansman.

Sheriff Ira Davis of St. Clair County said the Rev. Alvin Horn of Talladega, Ala., an organizer for the Ku Klux Klan of Georgia, and Claude Luker, a Talladega furniture dealer, were jailed without bond on charges of murdering Charlie Hurst of Pell City last Wednesday night.

The sheriff said police were looking for two other men. He asserted that the case was broken by the confession of Roy Heath of Talladega, who took his own life Sunday night with a shotgun.

Heath's nephew, William Heath, told police his uncle, a Ku Klux Klansman, "broke down" Saturday night and admitted he was one of the five men who attempted to kidnap Mr. Hurst.

"Bill, you're the only living person I've told this to," young Heath said his uncle told him. The next day his uncle killed himself.

Last Wednesday a gang of five men attempted to drag Mr. Hurst, 39-year-old former storekeeper, into an automobile parked in front of his home. Mr. Hurst yelled for help and his son, Howard, 19, rushed from the house with a loaded rifle.

"It looks like the Ku Klux," Mr. Hurst screamed to his son, who said he "froze" and could not pull the trigger. The father pulled away from the men, grabbed the rifle and began firing into the car. One of the men in the car riddled Mr. Hurst's body with bullets and wounded Howard in the hip.

Journal
27a
Wed 3-1-50
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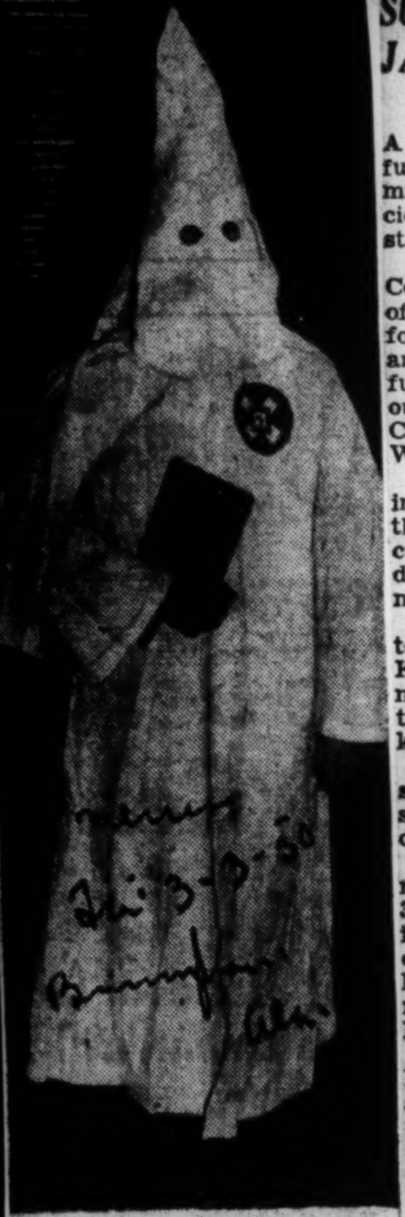


News
Fri 3-3-50
Birmingham, Ala.

HEATH'S ROBE — This is the robe worn by Roy Heath before his death. The book is a history of the Klan movement. Relatives said he referred to this book often. The insignia over the heart denotes an office in the Klan which gave him access to records of his klavern.

8039

Rev. Horn And Store Operator Jailed After Suicide Starts Break

Lynching

PELL CITY, Ala., Feb. 28—The Rev. Alvin Horn and C. J. Luker denied here this afternoon that they had anything to do with the night-rider slaying of Charlie Hurst last Wednesday night. News, Tues. 2-28-50

The Rev. Horn, reputed to be Alabama's No. 1 Klansman, and Luker, a Talladega furniture store operator, were placed in jail last night by county and state officers probing the slaying of a Pell City tubercular who was shot down in his front yard by a carload of men seeking to take him from his home.

Birmingham 27 Ala.

THE REV. HORN TOLD a News staff reporter, "I can't say anything except that I am not guilty.'

Ala.

Luker told the reporter, "I am innocent. My lawyer has advised me not to talk."

Horn and Luker were taken late yesterday in raids staged by St. Clair County officers, state investigators, highway patrolmen and Talladega city police.

The arrests followed statements given officers by three sons and a nephew of Roy Heath, who shot himself to death Sunday in his Talladega home.

Heath's sons and nephew said Heath told them before his death that he had gone on a ride to Pell City and that a man was killed.

Bill Heath, a nephew of Heath, said he had put new glass in the right front window of the Luker automobile soon after the shooting took place in Pell City.

He said the broken glass had what looked like bullet holes in it, but that he was told by Luker and his uncle, who brought the car to the shop where he is employed, that it was kicked out by a woman.

Rev. Horn's Story Of Slaying

Sheriff Ira Davis today quoted the Rev. Alvin Horn as making this explanation of his connection with Roy Heath in the Pell City night-riding slaying:

"Heath came to my house after the shooting in Pell City and said that he had been on a ride to Pell City with some of the boys and a man got killed."

"He asked if Sam Roper (Roper is head of the Associated Klans of Georgia) would help them.

"I told him that Roper would not. That the Klan didn't condone killings. News. Tues. 2.28-50

* * *

"I TOLD HEATH that 'if you killed a man you are on your own and will have to get out of it the best way you can.'

"Heath said 'that a man from Talladega, who was not a member of the Klan, went with him on the ride.'"

Horn told officers that any riding of the Klan in Pell City was unauthorized and that such visits had to be made only on orders of Roper.

Bill Heath also said his uncle told him that he was on the ride, that Luker was along and three other "big shot" business men were in the car.

PULL GLASS FROM ABANDONED WELL—Highway Patrolmen Eugene Montalbano, left, and J. W. Williamson are shown in the abandoned well where shattered automobile glass was found.

He said Heath's three sons said Heath killed himself because "they are trying to put it all on me." News

The Heaths said their father was a Klansman.

The three sons who gave statements to officers were J. B., Clarence and Matthew Heath. Tues.-2.28-50

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS in the fast-popping investigation yesterday included confiscation of the car in which the night riders are believed to have gone to the Hurst home and recovery of a shattered window glass from the car. Birmingham, Ala.

The shattered glass was found in an abandoned well on the outskirts of Talladega. It was dug from the old well while the other two raids were being carried out.

Scores of officers were on the scene.

* * *

ARREST OF THE TWO accused men and possession of evidence in the slaying was announced by St. Clair County Sheriff Ira Davis.

Cooperating with the sheriff are Talladega and Pell City police, officers from St. Clair, Talladega and Clay Counties, state investigators, state highway patrolmen and ABC investigators.

The action yesterday came after five days and nights of solid work for the officers, many of whom have had only snatches of sleep since Hurst was shot down in his front yard at bedtime last Wednesday night.

Warrants charging Horn and Luker with the murder were sworn by Robert Hurst, a brother of the slain man. They were issued by Justice of the Peace J. C. Meehan.

Identical except for the names of the defendants, they charge the two men "unlawfully and with malice aforethought killed Charlie Hurst by shooting him with a pistol."

The death weapon has not been found.

Sheriff Davis said the two men denied any part in the slaying.

They were questioned by Davis, State Investigators Ben Allen and W. L. Allen and Circuit Solicitor Leland Randall.

THE OFFICERS said Luker admitted he had new glass put in his car last Wednesday night. The car seized yesterday bore licenses issued in his name.

The officers said Luker told them that he had loaned the automobile to a friend on the night of the murder. The new glass was installed soon after Hurst was felled by two pistol bullets, the officers said.

The case began to break late Sunday with a flood of tips from anonymous persons. These tips included such information as "you are looking for the wrong color car."

Original reports had the car as a 1941 black Chevrolet. The one seized yesterday was maroon.

Developments were swift from then on.

Hurst, 39 years old, died of two bullet wounds in the body. The weapon was believed to be a .38-caliber pistol.

One bullet hit the victim in the right chest and the other in the lower abdomen. Both bullets coursed upward, split and tore two holes each as they went through his body.

His son, Howard, 19, was shot in the hip as he tried to rescue his father.

The elder Hurst was called from his home as he was undressing for bed. Before leaving the house he told his family "I think the Ku Klux is after me."

Outside, two men grabbed him by the arms and tried to drag him into a car while another man held the door open. He yelled for his son to bring the family rifle.

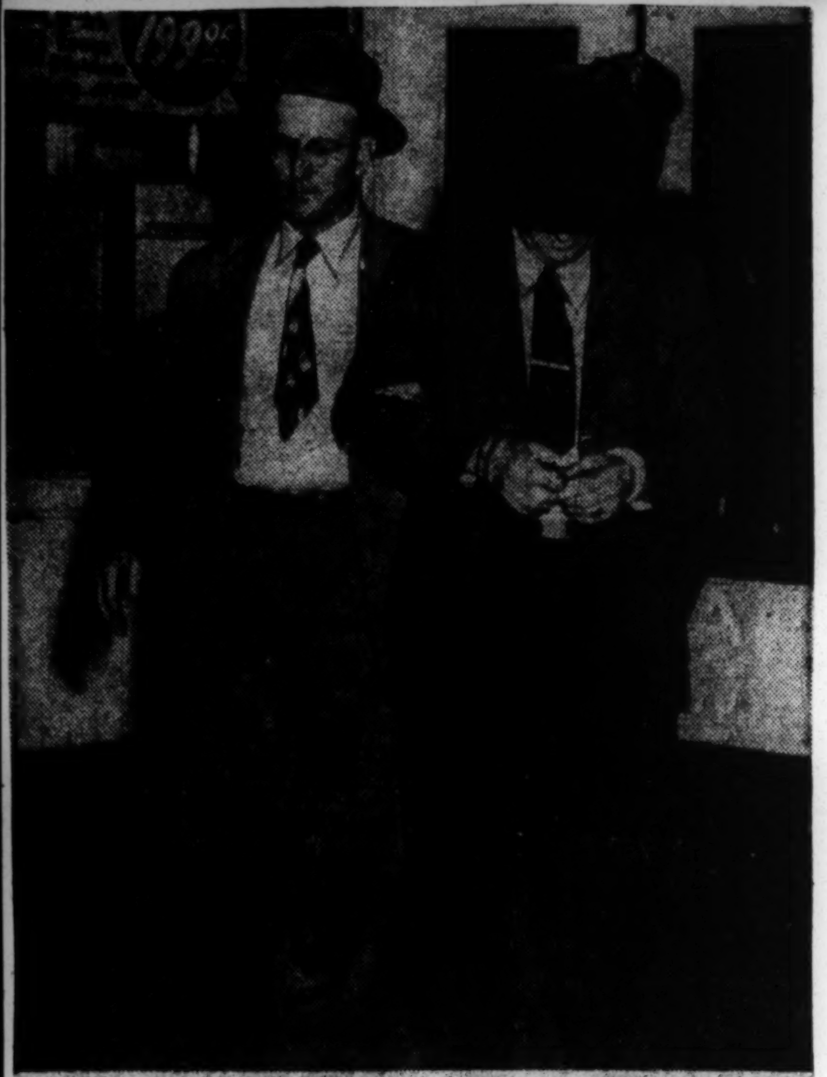
THE YOUTH said he was unable to work the gun "because I was so nervous."

At this point one member of the mob opened fire on him. He was hit in the hip.

He said he heard other shots, looked back and "There Daddy was, lying on theg round."

Horn and Luker have two courses through which they can seek release. They could ask for a habeas corpus hearing. A habeas corpus is a "show cause" proceeding.

The other course is to seek release through a preliminary hearing. This would be conducted by Justice of the Peace Meehan.



FURNITURE MAN TAKEN — State Investigator W. L. Allen, left, is shown leaving the Ritz Furniture Company yesterday with C. J. Luker. Luker and Klansman Alvin Horn were charged with murder of Charlie Hurst.

A Klan Leader Arrested

News
Birmingham
Ala
3-?-50

Arrest of two men, one a Klan leader, in connection with the killing last week of Charlie Hurst at the door of his home near Pell City, puts the hooded order under deeper suspicion of engendering a lawless spirit that involves limitless dangers.

The Klan has in the past pleaded innocence to charges of lawlessness on the grounds that lowly and unruly members of the organization might commit offenses of which the leaders did not approve. But in this case one of the men charged with the Pell City killing is generally regarded as a leading Klansman of the state.

The very fact that law-enforcement officers of the state, St. Clair County and the city of Talladega, after hard and relentless work, have found sufficient evidence to arrest a Klan leader in the Hurst killing puts the Klan as a whole under more question.

Now would seem an appropriate time to raise again the question of the legality of the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan operates under a duly issued charter of the state. That charter, however, can be revoked. Measures to do that are provided by law.

Nearly two years ago when revocation of the charter was urged, Atty. Gen. Albert A. Carmichael was approached. He implied he would take action in due time. The "Committee of 500" also promised action. But the Klan, despite all the evidence linking it with floggings and other offenses, is still in Alabama a legal organization.

The Alabama Legislature passed a law making it illegal to wear masks, except on obviously innocent occasions. The Klan goes on, however, under legal charter.

It is time for Atty. Gen. Carmichael to reexamine the case. A court should be called upon to decide whether the Klan has not forfeited its rights to hide under the cloak of legality.

From Where I Stand

St. Clair's Officers Are Right On Job In Hurst's Slaying

BY VULCAN

27a
Hurst
3-2-50
Birmingham
Ala

THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES when I have been impatient with some law enforcement officers in Alabama.

But I want to say today that I have had my eyes turned over into St. Clair County—watching Sheriff Ira Davis, his deputies and state investigators working on the murder of Charlie Hurst. And I'm proud of the way these gentlemen have gone about the job.

VULCAN

State Investigators W. L. Allen and Ben Allen, two aggressive young men, have worked night and day on the Hurst killing—helping Sheriff Davis and his force.

Solicitor Leland Randall and Frank Embry, county solicitor for St. Clair, have been devoting hour after hour to the case.

Highway Patrolman C. R. Clayton, like the other officers, has been catching his sleep a couple of hours at a time on this case.

Law enforcement officers can only do two things: (1) gather evidence; (2) make arrests. Then they can present evidence to Grand Juries and petit juries.

No law enforcement officer, from rookie patrolman to circuit solicitor, can do more than this. The rest is up to judge and jury.

I think the people of Alabama ought to know that the law enforcement agencies of St. Clair County, aided by the state, are working diligently to try to find and bring the guilty to justice in the killing of Charlie Hurst.

* * *

All Not So Good

UNHAPPILY, THE picture has been not so good in some other Alabama counties.

The bombing of the Preskitt Mine in Walker County is another challenge to the sheriff and solicitor—and to the people of Walker County.

I hope the Walker County officials will get to work as earnestly and quickly as did the officials in St. Clair County.

The violence and bloodshed picture in Alabama is one that is not pretty to look upon—and one that sheds no credit on the state and our people.

From Where I Stand

Lynching

News

Hurst Murder Was Inevitable Result Of Night Riding Activity

Post

BY VULCAN

2-25-50

YOU CAN'T have night riding without risking death.

Until Charlie Hurst was shot and killed when night riders called at his St. Clair County home, Alabama's flogging activities happily had not resulted in death—but that good fortune was not to last for long. And Charlie Hurst is dead.

VULCAN

There are a few people who have condoned mob violence on the argument those who were flogged "got only what they deserved."

But no Alabamian can condone the illegal killing of a fellow human being.

Birmingham
Ala
27a

I can imagine night riding in St. Clair County will be an unpopular thing now, that some of those who winked at the practice are sick with horror.

I hope the sheriff and the solicitor of St. Clair County will not rest until the guilty men are found and punished.

Such a killing, or several killings, could have happened on any of the night rides in Alabama.

Every time a would-be punisher goes out to take the law into his own hands, he risks becoming involved in death—either his own, that of a companion, or the victim of the mob.

This is a horrible, brutal example for those who are not content to let justice come through the established courts and the laws of the land.

From Where I Stand

Night Riders Give Adverse Publicity To St. Clair County

BY VULCAN

27a

I AM ALWAYS reluctant to look into the back yards of our neighbors without reminding myself that all does not always go well in my own front and back yards.

But I have had my eyes on St. Clair County since the night Charlie Hurst was called out under cover of darkness by night riders—and shot to death.

VULCAN

Law enforcement officers in St. Clair County, aided by state officers, have been working intelligently and diligently, trying to find the guilty man or men.

The more I think of the Charlie Hurst killing, the more it impresses me that the St. Clair case is the awful example of night riding.

News
Age-Herald
Jan. ?-50

First of all, the officers have information that Charlie Hurst was not the man who was to be "punished," that the finger was put on another man who lived on the same road.

Here you have the "wrong man," an innocent man called out.

Then, you have what was intended to be probably not more than a whipping party turned into a murder! An innocent man killed.

And, to top it off, you have still another death—a suicide—growing out of that same night ride.

Birmingham
Ala

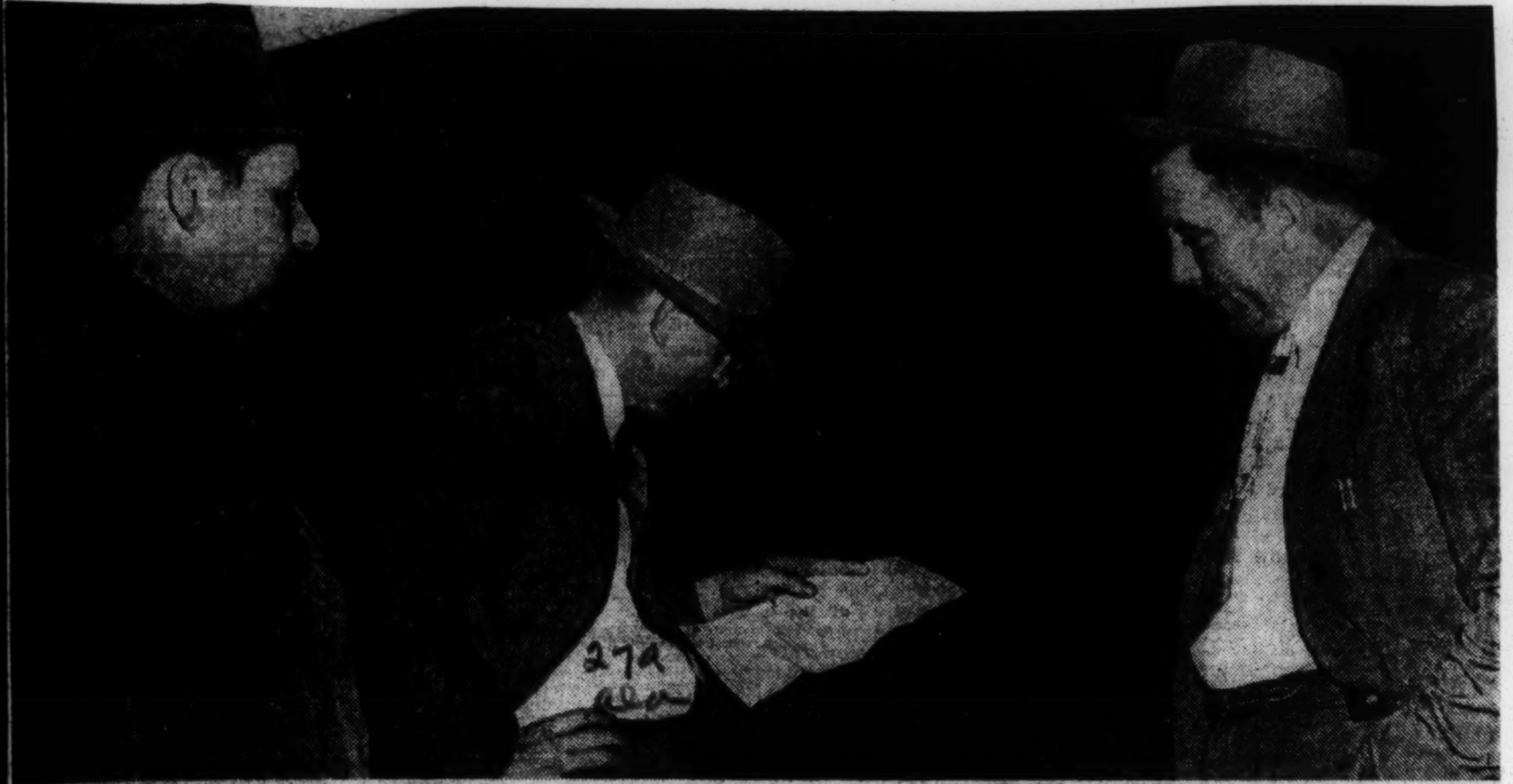
You see what can happen when men try to take the law into their own hands, to seek vengeance for so-called wrongdoing on the part of an individual!

Any time a group of night riders call out a man there is grave danger of death.

That an innocent man was killed in this illegal visit by night riders is but the horrible byproduct of a thing that is wrong under any circumstances.

27a 1950 Alabama (Charlie Hurst)

8041



KLANSMAN READS WARRANT — Klansman Alvin Horn studied the murder warrant for about three minutes last night before speaking. He was arrested by State Investigator Ben Allen, right, and St. Clair County Sheriff Ira Davis, left. This picture was made when the warrant was served on him in his yard as he and his wife returned to their hilltop home from Talladega.

Horn Waits: What Can Ku Klux Do For Him?

PELL CITY, Ala., March 2—Tall, lean Alvin Horn sits in jail and waits.

He waits to see what the Ku Klux Klan can do for one of its organizers when that organizer is charged with murder.

SAMUEL ROPER, imperial wizard of the Georgia Association of Klans, visited him in the St. Clair County Jail here yesterday.

The gray-haired, cigar-smoking "wizard" promised that he will "see that the innocent is turned loose and the guilty is convicted."

Horn has said he is innocent of the murder charge placed against him by the brother of a man who was slain by a mob in his front yard on the night of Feb. 23.

THE "WIZARD" said he will make a "thorough" personal investigation of the charge against Horn. He said he will "be in this area indefinitely."

He said he "will work with law enforcement officers."

State Investigator W. L. Allen said "We hope he means it."

The "wizard" is a former officer himself. He once was on the Atlanta police force and once headed the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. He said he prefers the term "criminal investigator" to "detective" when speaking of his former connections.

While talking with Horn, the Klan chief said he would stay at a Birmingham hotel last night. The desk clerk at that hotel said early today: "We don't have a Roper here."

ROPER INDICATED that the Georgia association will not offer its organizer any financial help for payment of attorney's fees.

He said: "I understand that Horn already has engaged a lawyer." Horn, pastor of three rural Baptist churches, said members of his congregation had retained Thurston Starnes, of Pell City, as his counsel.

Starnes has visited him several times since he has been in jail and yesterday asked for a preliminary hearing on the murder charge.

Roper said he will be helped in the investigation by a man he identified as C. R. Johnson, of Atlanta. Johnson, he said, is not an officer of the Klan.

The Georgia Klansman spoke of "Klan duty" while sitting in jail with his kleagle who also is called an "imperial representative" of the Georgia Association of Klans.

"It is the sworn duty of every member of the Klan," he said, "to assist in the apprehension and prosecution of any person involved in the violation of any law."

Any member of the Klan found to be guilty of any crime, he said, "will be banished forever."

ROPER, A NATIVE of St. Clair County, took office as imperial wizard last Aug. 25, 13 days after the death of Dr. Samuel Green.

He was born between Acmar and Trussville and has many relatives living in St. Clair County today. He said the family home, in what is known as the Roper community, straddled the Jefferson-St. Clair line, with the kitchen in Jefferson and the living wing of the home in St. Clair.

HORN IS BEGINNING to show signs of nervousness as he waits in jail. His appearance and manner yesterday were far different than that of his first day in jail, when he spoke of "the good old Southern hospitality" and "excellent food" of the St. Clair jail.

He was cheerful and joked frequently.

Yesterday he had changed from a natty blue suit and bright tie to khaki pants and shirt without a tie.

For the first time since his arrest he refused to allow pictures to be made.

Once in a while his pretty wife, who makes uniforms for Klansmen, visits him.

The rest of the time he just sits alone and waits.

Children Play As Law Takes Horn To Jail

HORN MOUNTAIN, Ala., Feb. 28—While three children played jumping games in the twilight, the Rev. Alvin Horn stood quietly reading a paper.

The Baptist preacher studied the paper carefully for about three minutes, although its message was brief and concise.

* * *

HIS EXPRESSION did not change as he looked up from the paper into the faces of St. Clair County Sheriff Ira Davis and State Investigator Ben Allen.

"Well, gentlemen," he said in his quiet, soft voice, "Can I have a little time to get things in order?"

"We have orders to bring you right on in," Investigator Allen replied.

The Klansman—said to be the top Kluxer in the state—then sighed slightly and said, "All right."

HE TURNED AND moved toward his wife, who had started into the run-down house with a bundle of groceries. She had stopped at the front doorsteps.

"Do you have a knife or anything?" Allen asked.

"Yes, sir, he replied, putting his hands into his pockets.

"Let's have it," Allen said.

Horn pulled out a small, dark-handled knife and handed it over.

Then he continued toward his wife who also showed no emotion. She stood by the doorstep holding the bundle of groceries.

He tried to reassure her, stepping close to her side. As he did, Investigator Allen moved closer.

HORN SPOKE a few words quietly, stepped back.

Then he told his wife "don't worry about me," and said "there's no need to have anybody to come over there (to the jail) tonight. It'll probably be sometime tomorrow before they fix the bond."

Sheriff Davis verified this.

Then the preacher, pastor of some rural churches in the area, reached into his pocket and pulled out his wallet.

"You will need some money," he said. She took it, saying nothing.

THEN THE PREACHER stepped up and kissed his wife.

The children kept on playing.

They stopped their games long enough to watch the car that took their father to jail.

~oper Investigates Murder Charges

Advertiser

PELL CITY, ALA., March 1—(AP)—Sam Roper, Atlanta, imperial wizard of the Georgia Association of Ku Klux Klans, came here Wednesday to "investigate" murder charges against one of his lieutenants.

The lieutenant is the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega, kleagle or organizer for the Roper-led order.

Horn and Claude J. Luker, Talladega furniture dealer, were arrested Monday night on a warrant charging murder in the gun-slaying of Charlie Hurst, 39, a storekeeper. Both denied the charge.

3-2-50

Another Klan official, Louis Harrison, exalted cyclops of the Pell City Klan, was arrested as a material witness last night. He was released under a $300 bond Wednesday after handing over a list of Klansmen in the area.

Montgomery Adv

Hurst was shot down and a son, Howard, was wounded when the elder man fought to keep unmasked night riders from dragging him into a car at his home near Pell City the night of Feb. 22.

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2 in Alabama Held n Night Ride Killing

27a Ala.

Klan Organizer and Another Accused of Murder

PELL CITY, Ala., Feb. 28 (AP).—A Ku-Klux Klan night rider's suicide led today to murder charges against the Rev. Alvin Horn, Baptist minister and Klan kleagle (organizer) in this area, and C. J. Luker, Talladega furniture dealer. They were charged with the slaying of Charlie Hurst, thirty-nine, here the night of Feb. 22.

New York Her. Trib.

The suicide of Roy Heath, fifty-five, at Talladega Sunday drew attention of those investigating the Hurst slaying. Sheriff Ira Davis quoted Mr. Horn as saying Mr. Heath had told the minister "he had been on a ride with some of the boys and a man got killed." Both Mr. Horn and Luker denied any part in the Hurst killing.

WED 3-1-50

Mr. Hurst was shot down in an exchange of gunfire in front of his home. He had told his son, Howard, nineteen, "I think the Ku-Klux are after me," when the night riders, all unmasked and not in robes, drove up to his house and called him out. Mr. Hurst called to his son for help and broke away from two men to take a rifle which Howard brought out. As Mr. Hurst began firing at the raid car, he fell, mortally hurt by three pistol bullets. Howard Hurst got a minor wound.

Mr. Horn is a former director of the Federated Ku-Klux Klan, an Alabama organization, but recently split with that group to become a kleagle for the Association of Georgia Klans, headed by Sam Roper, of Atlanta. The minister was "banished" by the Alabama group.

Bill Heath, newhew of Roy Heath, said his uncle had discussed the Hurst raid with members of his family before he shot himself. Before his death, the nephew added, Roy Heath tore up his Klan membership papers and denounced the white-robed order.

Police Guard Murder Suspect

27a Ala

Former Officer Held In Investigation Of Pell ~~City Slaying~~

Advertiser

PELL CITY, ALA., March 11—(AP)—A guard was placed Saturday at the hospital bedside of a 50-year-old former policeman who is charged with murder in the night-rider slaying of a country storekeeper.

Sheriff Ira Davis identified the accused man as C. M. Hunter, Pell City mattress manufacturer, ex-city policeman and warden at the county jail.

Journ. 3-12-50

His arrest followed the state's withdrawal of similar murder charges against three men, including the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega Baptist minister and organizer for the Georgia Association of Ku Klux Klans.

Montgomery Adv

Davis said he didn't know the nature of Hunter's illness and hospital attendants refused comment. Hunter makes the fourth man against whom murder charges are pending in the slaying of Charlie Hurst.

Hearing Recessed

In another development, Justice of the Peace J. C. Meehan recessed until Tuesday a preliminary hearing of similar murder charges against Claude Luker, Talladega furniture dealer arrested Feb. 27.

Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24-year-old textile mill worker, and Albert Wilson, 33, Talladega County farmer, were arrested Wednesday on murder charges in the Hurst killing.

The prosecution opened the preliminary hearing of charges against Luker Saturday by offering testimony from Howard Hurst 19-year-old son of the slain man.

Hurst, who was wounded in the hip by the night riders, told how his father broke loose from a group of men dragging him to a car in front of his home the night of Feb. 22. The elder Hurst snatched a .22 caliber rifle from Howard and fired three shots at the night riders before falling with fatal chest and abdomen wounds.

27a 1950 General 8037

FIVE ALREADY LYNCHED

27a

General

1-19-50

New York, N. Y.—Five Negroes have already been lynched or massacred in the United States in the first ten days of 1950, the Civil Rights Congress has notified President Truman in a letter appealing for emergency action by the Federal Administration.

"Your failure to make a strong statement on lynchings in your State of the Union message," William L. Patterson, CRC Executive Secretary has written, "has un-loosed white supremacist passions in every section of the country."

"Immediate action now by the White House outlawing the Klan and calling for the prosecution of every lyncher and murderer of Negro citizens is an urgent necessity. Negroes are being murdered almost at a one-a-day rate."

He continued, "Not shadow-boxing, but a real vigorous fight on behalf of anti-lynch, anti-poll tax and FEPC bills must be put up by the Administration. For the Negro people, 1950 must be The Year of Decision."

8042

Supreme Court Denies Writ to John Wallace

27a Ga 1948

Attorney Asks Re-hearing For Client Held for Murder

1948 Lynching

By ALBERT RILEY

The State Supreme Court has upheld a decision of Fulton Superior Court Judge Virlyn B. Moore denying a writ of habeas corpus to John Wallace, of Meriwether County, who was convicted in Coweta County in 1948 for the murder of Wilson Turner, tenant farmer

A. L. Henson, of Atlanta, Wallace's attorney, promptly announced he would ask the Supreme Court for a re-hearing, and would appeal the case to the United States Supreme Court, if necessary.

Constitution

Wallace, who twice has been sentenced to die for Turner's murder, is in Fulton Tower, where he was transferred from the Coweta County jail. It was his transfer to Fulton Tower that resulted in the petition for a writ of habeas corpus being filed against Fulton Sheriff A. B. Foster.

Wed. 1-5-50

The Supreme Court's latest decision marks another chapter in a long series of legal battles to get Wallace's death sentence set aside.

The High Court alrdeay has denied a simple motion for a new trial and an extraordinary motion for a new trial. And the State Pardon and Parole Board has turned down a plea to commute Wallace's sentence to life imprisonment.

Wallace's attorneys have contended that due to circumstances surrounding the trial in Coweta County, he did not get a fair and impartial trial and that his constitutional rights thus were abridged.

But in the Supreme Court's third and latest decision in the case, Justic T. Grady Head wrote that "a writ of habeas corpus cannot be used as a substitute for appeal, writ of error or other remedial procedure for the correction of errors or irregularities alleged to have been committed by the trial court."

All of the Justices concurred in the decision.

Henson said, however, that in arriving at its decision the High Court "discussed only a State rule which doesn't apply." In his motion for re-hearing, he said, he would ask the Court to apply the Federal rule on his client's Constitutional rights. Failing in that he said, he would appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.

John Wallace Re-sentenced To Die Nov. 3

Constitution

NEWNAN, Oct. 18—(AP)—Judge Samuel J. Boykin, of Coweta Superior Court, Wednesday re-sentenced John Wallace to die in the electric chair Nov. 3 for the July, 1948, murder of Wilson Turner, a share-cropper Wallace accused of stealing cows.

Thurs. 10-19-50

Wallace originally was sentenced to the electric chair on Feb. 11, 1949. Two other defendants in the case drew life imprisonment.

Atlanta Ga.

Wallace, a former wealthy Meriwether County dairy farmer, has been denied commutation of sentence several times by the State Supreme Court and last week the U. S. Supreme Court denied him a hearing. Wednesday Wallace filed a petition with the State Pardon and Parole Board again asking commutation.

CAN'T UNDERSTAND LOSS OF PLEA

Doomed Wallace 'Relying on God'

Constitution

Thurs. 10-26-50

1948 Lynching

By BILL DIEHL

Jovial but nervous, John Wallace said Wednesday night he was "relying on God" to save him from death in the electric chair for the 1948 slaying of William Turner, after hearing his last-ditch appeal for a reprieve had been denied by the State Pardon and Parole Board.

He is scheduled to die in the Tattnall Prison electric chair at Reidsville on Nov. 3.

"I'm feeling kind of foggy," Wallace said from his cell in Fulton Tower. "I don't know what to make of them refusing my plea. I guess I was kind of shocked when they turned me down—I thought I made a good show."

The Board refused to commute Wallace's death sentence to life imprisonment after a heated hearing Monday.

Atlanta Ga.

Dressed in a denim shirt and khaki pants, Wallace was momentarily the star in a cell block with other notorious inmates, including Hal Irwin, alleged killer of an Atlanta cab driver and M. J. Allen, who shot and killed his father-in-law and wife one Sunday morning several months ago.

Sticking to the story he is innocent, Wallace asked that "after I go, somebody go interview Tom Strickland and Henry Mobley . . . they'll tell you I'm innocent and there won't be any need for them to lie then."

The two men to whom Wallace referred are both serving life sentences for implication in the same crime in which Wallace is scheduled to die.

"I only hope that the people that told those lies about me in court will tell the truth before they die," Wallace said. "Not necessarily before I go—but some day I hope everyone realizes I'm innocent."

Wallace, according to testimony, dragged William Turner from a Coweta County drive-in, beat him to death with a shotgun butt and later burned his body.

"I don't deny that I dragged him out of that place by force and drove him back to Meriwether County," Wallace went on. "But I never hit him one single lick. Maybe I kidnaped him, but I didn't beat him to death."

When asked if he was afraid to die, Wallace said, "I've still got my faith in God. If I have to go away next week, I don't leave any bad memories behind. I've never done anything or mistreated anyone that I'm sorry for."

Then he added: "I want to thank all those fine folks who helped me and showed such an interest in my welfare. I guess the Governor is my only hope for life now."

A. L. Henson, Wallace's attorney, said he plans further legal action although he declined to say what it might be. He said he definitely will not petition Gov. Talmadge for a reprieve.

Might Scare Off Varmints, Too

HANNOVER, Germany, Oct. 25—(AP)—Police at Diepholz arrested an enterprising German salesman for selling farmers "insurance against Red army" to have their farms from confiscation.

The insurance: A picture postcard to be flashed to invading Soviet soldiers. It bore the likeness of Joseph Stalin.

27a 1950 'Legal Lynchings' (?)

8052

21 'Legal Lynchings'?

On Thursday, June 1, twenty-one Negro men and youth were reported to be languishing in jails on the road toward execution in seven states. Charges and denials that these persons have been "framed" are heard on every side. Lawyers and citizens have raised their voices in protest against "legal lynchings and terror against the Negro people." With these cries come the inevitable question of "reasonable doubt" in the minds of honest citizens, whose only interest in such cases is that justice be done and he law take its reasonable course.

27a

Amsterdam News

The names of Willie McGee, of Laurel, Miss.; the Trenton, New Jersey, Six, in which case it has been claimed they have been denied the right to choose their own lawyers; the Groveland Three, of Florida; Robert Wesley Wells, San Quentin Prison, San Francisco, Cal. Daniel Cousins, of North Carolina and Paul Washington, of the South Pacific are well known. Persons and groups working in their behalf have expressed the belief that these men and their fellow-doomed men are innocent.

Sat. 6-17-50 27a

In some of these cases, appeals to higher courts have been denied; requests for new trials have been turned down; reprieves have been refused, and fair trials have been said not to have been had by these persons charged with committing a capital offense.

New York, N.Y.

It would appear that the question of "reasonable doubt" in the commission of a crime, the penalty of which is death, the State should, by its own choice, follow a course of action that, under no circumstances, could the charge of "frame up" be made with the slightest possibility of proof or propaganda value. The States now being charged with "railroading" twenty-one Negroes to death should look seriously into each case, and let no man forfeit his life under the cloud of a reasonable doubt as to his guilt or innocence.

27a 1950

South Carolina
1947 - Willie Earle

8043

Behind The Headlines

Willie Earle May Not Have Lost His Life In Vain After All

By ALBERT L. HINTON

MR. HINTON

IT WILL PROBABLY come as somewhat of a shock to many news-conscious persons that a southern textile town which, three years ago made national and international headlines by the simple expedient of being the locale for one of the most heinous lynchings in the nation's history, is today doing some serious stock-taking with the express purpose of improving the lot of its colored citizens.

1947
S.C.
27a
Journal and Guide

Yet as strange as it may seem that is exactly what is happening in Greenville, South Carolina, home of Willie Earle who was snatched from the Pickens County jail in the early morning hours of February 17, 1947 and beaten, stabbed and shot to death by a blood-thirsty mob. Out of the community inventory has come a long-range plan worked out by members of both races for the overall improvement of the colored community.

Date 6-10-50

Spearheading the unique experiment in human relations was the Southern Regional Council with headquarters in Atlanta, which supplied the professional help to the Greenville Community Council, an agency of the Community Chest. As the result of a county-wide survey of living conditions among colored residents, an interracial steering committee, and subsequently 12 sub-committees were set up.

Norfolk, Va.

The organized groups studied population, health, sanitation and safety, law enforcement, transportation, recreation, religious resources, welfare, industry and employment, community participation, education and welfare. White and colored ministers rode busses to observe transportation; housewives studied housing; doctors examined health facilities, while engineers gathered facts about safety. Other aspects of community living were surveyed by teachers, lawyers, dentists, businessmen and laborers.

The committee's findings were just about what you would expect; inadequacies all along the line where colored citizens were concerned. But recommendations have been made looking toward immediate relief in most instances.

* * *

OFF HAND, I CANNOT think of a single community anywhere in the United States which is more desperately in need of such an inventory, or which would stand to benefit more by social reform. But perhaps I am prejudiced because my only contact with the Greenville community was attended by the most adverse circumstances.

I covered the trial of Willie Earle's alleged lynchers. From the vantage point of a seat in the balcony of the Greenville County Court more than three years ago, I was exposed to the virus of racial prejudice in its worst form. And I saw the accused white men freed of all charges in spite of the overwhelming evidence against them including voluntary signed confessions which had been witnessed by special agents of the FBI, and other law enforcement officers.

But in spite of all this it is good to hear that Greenville is taking some steps on its own in trying to dim the bitter memory of the Willie Earle lynching stigma. And if the Greenville experiment is as successful as its sponsors hope for, and becomes a pattern for the entire South, then the community, paradoxically enough, will have the lynching of a 25-year-old youth to thank for having supplied the inspiration for the reform. If this should hapepn, Willie Earle's tragic death will not have been altogether in vain.

First Lynching of 1950 Revealed By Virginia Negro Farmer's Family

Eagle

27a Va

Thurs. 1-19-50

Tulsa Oklahoma

NEW YORK, N. Y. — The first lynching of 1950, in which Samuel Taylor, a 38-year-old Negro farmer, was axed and slashed to death on New Year's Eve by two car loads of lynchers, has been revealed here by William L. Patterson, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress.

The full story of the lynching, in which Taylor's multilated body was left in a veritable blood bath, has been pieced together by members of his family, despite the reluctance of an intimidated witness and law-enforcement officials to discuss the case.

More than 350 Negro friends, neighbors and members of the Negro community braved white supremacist terror to attend Taylor's funeral and to protest his brutal lynching. Over 60 cars were counted in the funeral procession.

...."This dramatic funeral protest demonstration by the Negroes of a small southern community must rouse Americans throughout the country to fight the terror against the Negro people," declared William L. Patterson, Executive Secretary of CRC. "This first lynching of 1950 must be answered by an intensified campaign for passage of the Anti-Lynch Bill, and other civil rights legislation," said Mr. Patterson.

The leader of the lynch gang, Frank Clayton, a bootlegger who had been arrested two weeks before the lynching for illegal manufacture of whiskey, brazely boasted in a local beer garden that he had killed a man. His clothes, at the time, were drenched with blood.

The sheriff of Powhattan County jailed Clayton but **other members of the lynch gang, though known, are still free. Either a white-washing or a token sentence is expected for Clayton.**

....

A Grand Jury is scheduled to meet on February 27th to hear charges against Clayton. In the meantime, **there is a possibility that he will be released on bail.**

Despite the terror against the Negro people in the south, a committee to demand that all the lynchers of Taylor be arrested and charged with murder, is being formed in the community in which the lynching occurred.

It will demand that Clayton be held in jail and indicted for murder; that the known members of the lynch gang also be apprehended and indicted for murder; that Taylor's mother and father be indemnified. Taylor was their main source of support and upkeep of their small farm.

On the afternoon of Saturday, December 31, according to details brought to light thus far, Clayton and five or six cohorts came in two cars to the farm house of Allen Liggon, the Taylor's Negro neighbor.

Sometime between three and five o'clock that afternoon, Taylor, returning home, was called by the lynchers to Liggin's house.

From the blood left in the house, it is evident that he was first attacked there, then carried out to the back of the Liggon house, where he was found the next morning by his own father, Spencer Taylor, who is 78 years old.

Taylor's right ear was cut, his throat slashed with deep cuts, and a deep long gash, made with an axe, was found in his back. The body was in a mass of blood.

Clayton went to a doctor for treatment of a cut on his hand in nearby Cumberland that evening and boasted there too that he had killed a man.

Early the next morning, Clayton and two members of the lynch gang were on their way to Liggon's house. They were obviously coming back to get Taylor's body and to dispose of it. But they were seen, and immediately turned and fled.

Eagle

Thurs 1-19-50

Liggon has told friends of the Taylor family that he is blind and knows nothing of what happened in his house. It has since been learned that Liggon, who is only partially blind, lives alone and is fearful of saying anything about the lynching.

In the last year, terror against the Negro people and Negro farmers in the area has been growing. Two weeks before the lynching, the wife of Reverend Anderson, a Negro minister, was robbed by two white men. A few weeks before that, a young Negro girl was brutally assaulted and raped by white hoodlums.

Slain by Mob at Powhatan

Afro American

Dad Makes Gruesome Discovery of Body

27a Va

WHITE MAN HELD

Sat. 1-21-50

Others in Gang Known, Not Arrested

Baltimore Md

POWHATAN, Va.—Samuel Taylor, 38, Ballsville farmer, was lynched in the home of an aged recluse on the afternoon of Dec. 31, by a group of five or more white men who fled the scene of the crime (about 15 miles from Richmond) in two automobiles, it was learned here last week.

Frank Clayton, white, who reportedly went to a physician in nearby Cumberland for treatment of a cut on his hand and allegedly boasted there and in a beer garden that he had "killed a man," has been arrested on a murder charge.

Taylor was slain in the home of Allen Liggon, who says he is blind and does not know what took place. His clothing drenched with blood, Taylor's body was found outside the back door of Liggon's home next morning by his (Taylor's) father, Spencer Taylor, with whom the slain man lived.

Murder Weapon Found

A quantity of blood in the Liggon home and the bloody knife evidently used as the murder weapon, also found in the house, indicated that the lynching took place inside the house and that the body was tossed out the back door after the crime was committed.

(It is reported that Sheriff Simpson made no move to have the murder weapon sent to Richmond or elsewhere for examination for fingerprints that it might have contained and which might have led to the identity of the slayer or slayers.)

The man's throat was slashed with deep cuts and a long gash — evidently made with the knife—was found in his back. A mass of blood covered the ground at the spot where the body was found. The right ear was gashed in a manner that would indicate an attempt to cut it off.

Autopsy Performed

After the coroner viewed the body and State police and County Sheriff F. W. Simpson arrived on the scene, the body was removed to the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond in a vehicle owned by J. P. Walton, mortician, with a State police escort.

An autopsy was performed in Richmond by the State medical examiner's office and the body was returned to Mr. Walton's undertaking establishment to await funeral services.

Afro American

Seen in Area Next Day

Early Sunday morning (Jan. 1), neighbors reported seeing Clayton and two other white men in an auto driving towards Liggon's home. As they approached and saw others around the home, they turned the car around and fled, neighbors said.

Sat. 1-21-50

These persons, attracted to the scene by news of the killing, speculated that Clayton and some of his cohorts were coming back to get Taylor's body and attempt to dispose of it. Liggon and Taylor's parents are neighbors and live only a short distance apart.

Baltimore Md

Say Mob Members Known

Clayton was later arrested on a murder charge and is being held at State Farm. Other members of the mob, three men and one woman, all white, are known, local citizens report, but none has been arrested by Sheriff F. W. Simpson of Powhatan County.

27a Va

Fears that the whole thing will be whitewashed and Clayton set free were expressed not only by members of the Taylor family but by other residents of the area. The county grand jury is scheduled to meet on Feb. 27, at which time it will sift the charges against Clayton.

Indications that law enforcement officers will act on the theory that the slaying of Taylor was a simple homicide, not a lynching, were seen here last Friday by an AFRO reporter who visited the scene of the crime.

60 Vehicles at Funeral

Funeral services for Taylor, principal support of his 78-year-old father and his mother, now in her seventies, were held last week, attracting more than 350 persons in the small farming community. More than 60 cars made up the funeral procession.

Plans to set up a committee to make an appeal to churches, other groups and individuals throughout the State for funds with which to wage a fight to have the guilty parties in this lynching brought to justice were mapped at a citizens' meeting here last week.

Red Party Head Talks

Commenting on the slaying, Mrs. Alice Burke, State chairman of the Communist party of Virginia, who is making a thorough investigation of the murder, declared:

"There is no doubt that the terror against the colored people in this small community is one of the reasons that Liggon does not tell all he knows. 'As in other sections of Virginia and the South, the white supremacists, the Klan-minded are terrorizing the colored people.

"Only two weeks ago, Mrs. Anderson, the wife of a minister, was robbed by two white men. A short time ago a young colored girl was criminally assaulted by some white hoodlum and nothing was done about this outrage.

"Generally, the colored citizens are being taken advantage of and exploited. There is no attempt being made by the sheriff and other law enforcement officers to do anything about these crimes."

Asked about the specific charge on which Clayton is being held, Sheriff Simpson said the man is being held on a murder count, but said he was not sure just when a preliminary hearing for the accused would be held. He said he did not know Clayton's age.

Also verified by the sheriff was a report given the AFRO to the effect that Clayton had been arrested about three weeks ago on a charge of moonshining (illegal manufacture of whisky) and that that accusation is still pending against him.

In attempting to establish a motive for the crime, residents of the area indicated that they were of the opinion that Clayton, for some unknown reason, believed that Taylor had something to do with his arrest on the whisky count.

No Protection Planned

Asked whether any steps had been taken to protect the life of Liggon, who may be an important witness in the prosecution's case—and apparently the only known witness so far who is not mixed up in the lynching—Sheriff Simpson said "none that I know of."

The victim was on his way to his home, where he lives on a farm with his parents, when the gang of white men who had assembled in Liggon's home had Liggon to call him, according to reports, and, not suspecting anything, Taylor entered the house, never to emerge alive.

The AFRO had been informed that a preliminary hearing would be held for Clayton in Powhatan County Trial Justice Court on Jan. 8, before Trial Justice George K. Taylor Jr.

Officials of the Powhatan County branch, NAACP, are investigating the case and are expected to make a detailed report on the situation to the executive secretary, W. Lester Banks, here the latter part of the week.

The NAACP officials acted following a meeting of ~~the branch, held Monday night.~~

8030

FIVE NEGROES ALREADY LYNCHED IN CURRENT YEAR SAYS CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS IN REPORT

Black Dispatch

President Truman Petitioned For Emergency White House Action

Sat. 1-21-50

MASSACRE OF CHILDREN REPORTED

Oklahoma City, Okla.

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Five Negroes have already been lynched or massacred in the United States in the first ten days of 1950, the Cicil Rights Congress has notified President Truman in a letter appealing for emergency action by the Federal Administration.

"Your failure to make a strong statement on lynchings in your State of the Union message," William L. Patterson, CRC Executive Secretary has written, "has unloosed white-supremacist passions in every section of the country."

"Immediate action now by the White House outlawing the Klan and calling for the prosecution of every lyncher and murderer of Negro citizens is an urgent necessity. Negroes are being murdered almost at a one-a-day rate."

He continued, "Not shadow-boxing, but a real vigorous fight on behalf of anti-lynch, anti-poll tax and FEPC bills must be put up the Administration. For the Negro people, 1950 must be The Year of Decision."

The five 1950 victims of the lynch-murder wave are dead because they are Negroes, Mr. Patterson stated. Government's policy of Jim Crow, which is enforced through terror against the Negro people, is encouraging hoodlums and lynchers both in the North and South.

"In the most horrifying murder the Negro people have suffered in this post-war era," the CRC leader wrote, "three young Negro children, aged 18, 7, and 4, were slaugrtered by white supremacist rapists in Kosciusko, Mississippi, on Monday, January 9th."

"The few newspapers which have reported the details of this shocking massacre of children are attributing their death to the fact that their killers were escaped convicts who were bent on seeking revenge for one reason or another from the children's father."

"The Negro people, however, know better. Sonny Harris, Nell Harris and Mary McAtee were murdered because their white supremacist killers know that the State of Miss., will either give them a token sentence or white-wash them, as it has been done in hundreds of such instances before." Mr. Patterson further wrote, "On New Year's Eve, while the Negro people were still counting their lynched dead in 1949, Samuel Taylor, a 38 year-old Negro farmer in Ballsville, Va., was axed and slashed to death in a veritable blood bath by two carloads of lynchers. Only the leader of that gang has been jailed; the others, known to local law-enforcement officers, are still free. Taylor's body was discovered by his 78 year old father the next morning in a mass of blood."

"Here in New York City, in the heart of the Negro community on New Year's Day," he continued, "George West a 29year old negro was shot to death in a tavern by an off-duty policemen simply because he had dared to suggest that the man put away his revolver and stop threatening two other Negroes."

"Act now, Mr. President", the CRC leader concluded, "or another Negro father, like Samuel Taylor's will find his son's body with his throat slashed, deep axe gashes in his back and gallons of blood streaming from his body.

Black dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat. 1.21-50

27a(1) 1950 Virginia

8053X

Doubt '1st Lynching' Was Really Lynching

27a (1) Va

BALLSVILLE, Va. — Without fanfare, Frank Clayton, 28, white, has been bound over to the Powhatan County grand jury on a charge of murdering Samuel Taylor, 35, on the night of Dec. 31.

[illegible] 1-2-50

The Richmond chapter of the NAACP, which is continuing an investigation of the case, said it was satisfied with the way Commonwealth's Atty. William R. Blanford had handled the case.

Although in some quarters the death of Taylor was [illegible]ed 1950's first lynching, Blandford said the case "had no elements of a lynching."

The grand jury that will consider the case against Clayton is scheduled to meet next month.

Drinking With Whites

Powhatan Sheriff F. W. Simpson said an investigation conducted by himself and Blanford strongly indicated that Taylor was stabbed in the neck by Clayton after they had been drinking with three white men and a white woman at the rural home of Allen Liggon, near here.

State Police Sergeant S. C. Waddill, who also was assigned to the case, emphasized that the affair is not closed. He urged NAACP investigators and others looking into the death of Taylor to pass along information they may have.

In Richmond, W. Lester Banks, executive secretary for the state NAACP, said his organization found no fault with Blandford's conduct of the investigation.

27a(1) 1950 Virginia

8054

Virginian Axe-Slashed To Death

?

27a(1)

Va

Intensification Of Campaign For Lynch Measure Is Urged

Memphis, Tenn

NEW YORK, N. Y. — The first lynching of 1950, in which Samuel Taylor, a 38-year old Negro farmer, was axed and slashed to death on New Year's Eve by two car loads of lynchers, has been revealed here by William L. Patterson, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress.

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[illegible] 1-17-50

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PROTEST DEMONSTRATION

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Memphis, Tenn

The Sheriff of Powhatan County jailed Clayton but other members of the lynch gang, though known, are still free.

A Grand Jury is scheduled to meet on February 27 to hear charges against Clayton. In the meantime, there is a possibility that he will be released on bail.

FARM HOUSE

1-7-50

On the afternoon of Saturday, December 31, according to details brought to light thus far, Clayton and five or six cohorts came in two cars to the farm house of Allen Liggon, the Taylor's Negro neighbor.

Sometime between three and five o'clock that afternoon, Taylor, returning home, was called by the lynchers to Liggon's house.

From the blood left in the house, it is evident that he was first attacked there, then carried out to the back of the Liggon house, where he was found the next morning by his own father, Spencer Taylor, who is 78 years old.

Taylor's right ear was cut, his throat slashed with deep cuts, and a deep long gash, made with an axe, was found in his back. The body was in a mass of blood.

Clayton went to a doctor for treatment of a cut on his hand in nearby Cumberland that evening and boasted there that he had killed a man.

Early the next morning, Clayton and two members of the lynch gang were on their way to Liggon's house. They were obviously coming back to get Taylor's body and to dispose of it. But they were seen, and immediately turned and fled.

Liggon has told friends of the Taylor family that he is blind and knows nothing of what happened in his house. It has since been learned that Liggon, who is only partially blind, lives alone and is fearful of saying anything about the lynching.

In the last year, terror against the Negro people and Negro farmers in the area has been growing. Two weeks before the lynching, the wife of Reverend Anderson, a Negro minister, was robbed by two white men. A few weeks before that, a young Negro girl was brutally assaulted and attacked.

Surprise Moves May Highlight Murder Case Which Has Earmarks of Lynching

Afro-American

Sat. 2-4-50

White Suspect Certified to Grand Jury; Defense Scores 'Racial Mixing, Drinking'

Baltimore, Md.

By JOE SIMPSON

POWHATAN, Va. — Surprise moves by both the Commonwealth and defense attorneys may highlight the trial of Frank Clayton, 28, white, charged with killing Samuel Taylor, 32, last Dec. 31.

27a(1)

The circumstances surrounding Taylor's death have all the earmarks of a lynching.

Case to Grand Jury

Va

The surprise moves were indicated here Jan. 25 in Powhatan county's ancient courthouse when Clayton was given a preliminary hearing before Trial Justice George K. Taylor.

The justice certified the case to the grand jury after about 45 minutes of testimony which drew many spectators who overflowed the small courtroom.

Commonwealth's Attorney William R. Blandford explained after calling five State's witnesses that the State was interested only in showing at this time probable cause for certification of the case to the grand jury.

The only fireworks came when John Flannagan, attorney for Clayton, insisted upon calling to the stand Bernard Hague, white, of Richmond and Powhatan, considered a key witness for the prosecution. The court permitted Hague to testify.

Hague, who was present at the scene of the crime, made what some observers considered a "significant statement," but quickly corrected himself, altering the statement from the plural to the singular.

In relating what transpired the day Taylor was killed, Hague had asserted that as he came out of the house, a white man identified only as "Shorty" peered around the corner of the building, returned and told him, "Good Lord, they got him (Taylor) down."

Hague Corrects "Slip"

Hague quickly altered the statement, saying "he (in place of 'they' got him down."

A short while later, Hague said, Clayton came through the house and into the front yard, "bloody as a hog," and he, Clayton, two other white men, and Hague's white woman companion left the home of Allen Liggon (where the killing took place).

Admits Aiding Clayton

Hague admitted that he carried Clayton, still wearing the bloody clothing, in his (Hague's) car to a doctor in Cumberland for treatment of a cut on Clayton's arm.

He also took Clayton to two stores, one in Tobaccoville and the other in Ballsville, where both men lived, then carried him home.

Left Wife With Tan Pal

Hague testified also that he spent the night at Liggon's house and that he left his wife "at the home of a colored friend."

Flannagan chided him slightly for his associations, "mixing and drinking" with colored people.

Coroner First Witness

First witness called by the prosecution was Dr. R. W. Bradley, coroner, who viewed the body after it was found about 10 a.m. New Year's Day by the victim's father, Spencer Taylor.

The coroner described the position of the body when found and gave other pertinent facts.

He said he examined the body at 12:15 p.m. on Jan. 1 and that the man had ben dead at least 12 hours at that time, possibly considerably longer.

27a(1)

Va

The stab wound in Taylor's neck indicated that he could not possibly have lived more than four or five minutes after the knifing.

Hemorrhage Caused Death

The body bore three other wounds, one on the ear, another on the right side of the head, opposite from the stab wound in the neck, and the third, a long gash in the back.

The coroner said Taylor died of a hemorrhage from the neck wound.

Asked if there were any indications that Taylor moved after receiving the fatal wound, Dr. Bradley replied, "only slightly if at all, most of the blood being in a position directly under the stab wound in the neck."

He added, in answer to a defense question, that the body could be seen for 50 feet.

Rubbish Covers Body

(A State police officer who investigated the slaying told the AFRO that the body was practically covered with rubbish when found, and that it was no surprise to him that the men who went to Liggon's house early that morning did not see it.)

Other State Witnesses

Clayton did not take the stand, nor did the defense call any other witnesses of its own.

Other Commonwealth witnesses called were:

Earl Dandridge, white, Ballsville merchant, from whom Clayton purchased a shirt, pair of pants and some cigarettes.

He said Clayton was bloody in front from his neck to his thighs, and he heard him "talking" but could not recall what he said.

Samuel Hurt, white, who was in the store when Clayton came in and bought the clothing said he was "real bloody."

He explained that while he couldn't hear all Clayton was saying while in the store, he did hear him say that all the blood on him was "not his."

27d(2) 1950

White Press

8055

Figures on Lynching Given

To the Editor of The New York Times:

I am not a registered Democrat, and have been voting the Republican ticket ever since the New Deal; and I voted for Dewey for President in November, 1948, and after the election I figured that Truman outpromised Dewey. Now Dewey is running again for Governor, and instead of outpromising the other candidate he has adopted another technique. He is going to out-insult people.

New York N.Y. 10-9-50

On Page 16 of THE TIMES of Oct. 2, recording Dewey's speech to the Negroes in Harlem, he is quoted as saying: "Lynching is an old Southern custom."

27d(2)

This is an insult to the South, although this time it was not made at a dinner party to his invited guests.

Page 481 of the World Almanac of 1950 will show that in the year 1948 (the last recorded year) there were exactly two lynchings in the entire United States; one of those lynched was a white and the other was a Negro. Even going back to the year 1939, there were three lynchings, one a white and two of Negroes.

Henry Alan Johnston.

New York, Oct. 2, 1950.

27e(1) 1950

Alabama

8044

Five In Mob Slaying Case Face June Trial In Pell City Court

PELL CITY, Ala., May 9—Five men accused of the mob slaying of a Pell City tuberculosis sufferer are to go on trial next month.

The five include Alabama's top Ku Klux Klansman, the Rev. Alvin Horn.

News

Charlie Hurst, 39, was shot to death in his front yard the night of Feb. 22, after he was called from his kitchen by a member of the mob.

June 27e(1)

* * *

HE WAS SHOT with a pistol when he resisted the men as they tried to pull him into a waiting car. Hurst was hit with two bullets and died about 30 minutes later in a local hospital.

Birmingham

His son, Howard, 19, was shot in the hip when he tried to rescue his father from the night riders.

Ala.

He told his son just before the shooting: "I think the Ku Kluxers are after me."

Circuit Clerk J. W. Truitt said trials of Horn and the four other accused men have been set tentatively for the June session of Circuit Court here.

Ala.

* * *

ACCUSED IN addition to Horn, a Baptist minister, are C. M. Hunter, local mattress manufacturer; Albert Wilson, Talladega County farmer; Charlie Carlisle, textile worker, and Claude Luker, a Talladega furniture merchant.

The men were rounded up after Roy Heath, Talladega Klansman, committed suicide four days after the murder. The man told his sons and nephews that he feared "influential" persons would try to "pin it all on me."

The accused men were arrested by State Investigators W. L. Allen and Ben Allen and St. Clair County Sheriff Ira Davis after several days of round-the-clock investigation.

27e(1) 1950 Florida

8056

25

Joe Louis Gives $500 For Youths

27e(1)

MIAMI, Fla.—Joe Louis, retired world's heavyweight champion, has contributed $500 to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's Groveland Defense Fund. Presentation was made here last week to Franklin H. Williams, NAACP assistant special counsel, who is in Florida working on the appeal for the three youths convicted last summer in a rape charge frame-up.

In making the presentation, the ex-champ said: "This case, as well as the entire work of the NAACP, deserves the support of all Negroes and other persons working for "equal rights for everybody in our country." Louis is in Florida on a exhibition tour.

A total of $6,748 had been previously collected for the fund from NAACP branches, churches, organizations and individuals.

Grand Jury To Probe For Rights Violations

Advertiser

27e(1)

Montgomery

4-17-50

OCALA, FLA., April 16—(AP)—A federal grand jury will convene here Monday to determine whether there were any civil rights violations by armed mobs in Lake County last July.

Roving bands put several Negro homes to the torch, fired into others and rode through several Negro settlements firing wildly into the air after a 17-year-old farm wife was raped.

The young woman reported four Negroes raped her after forcing her to accompany them from a lonely Lake County roadside where her husband's car had been stalled. The husband was beaten and left.

U. S. District Attorney Herbert S. Phillips of Tampa said several witnesses are to be heard

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New Evidence May Free 'Groveland 3'

U. S. Jury Probes Fla. Terror Wave

Courier Sat. 4-22-50

27e(1) Fla

Pittsburgh Pa

OCALA, Fla.—Three new developments—all of them important—brought the Groveland terror wave of last July back into bright focus this week.

1. A Federal grand jury began a sweeping probe into the outbreak to determine if there had been any civil rights violations.

2. The Florida Supreme Court was pondering its decision on the appeal for reversal of the conviction and death sentence of three Negro youths charged with raping a white girl, with requests for a new trial.

(Many Negro voters are being intimidated by their employers, The Coureir learned this week. Employers are threatening to fire Negro workers if they do not vote for a certain candidate, it was revealed.)

3. Norman Bunin, a staff writer for the St. Petersburg Times, said in a series of articles that he had uncovered evidence which led him to believe the boys were not guilty of the crime they were charged with.

ONE MAN SLAIN

The Groveland mob violence resulted from the alleged raping of the young white woman by four Negroes, three of whom were convicted of the crime, with two being sentenced to the electric chair, one to life imprisonment, and the fourth man slain by whites who pursued him.

Wholesale shootings and burnings of Negro homes in Groveland followed. The National Guard was called out to restore order after some 400 Negro families had fled in terror.

Several witnesses appeared before the Federal grand jury here last Monday and were questioned by United States Attorney Herbert S. Phillips, in charge of the Government probe.

ASK NEW TRIAL

Meanwhile, at Tallahassee, the Florida Supreme Court heard Alex Akerman Jr. of Winter Park, and Franklin H. Williams, NAACP attorney from New York, make their plea for Samuel Shepherd and Walter Lee Irvin, both doomed to die.

The conviction of Charles Greenlee, sentenced to life, was not appealed because the NAACP felt that any new evidence at a new trial which would clear Shepherd and Irvin would also free Greenlee.

RIGHTS DENIED

Counsel for the boys pointed out several grounds upon which they based their claims for a new trial, including a denial of the defendants' rights under the Fourteenth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, along with five other issues. The Supreme Court decision is expected soon.

The Department of Justice ordered the grand jury probe and is seeking to indict police officers accused of beating and otherwise mistreating the three youths. The Courier carried exclusive pictures of the bodies of the youths showing bruises and marks which could have been made during a beating.

REPORTER'S STORY

In St. Petersburg, Mr. Bunin wrote that he had uncovered evidence not introduced at the trial and which strongly supports the defendants' claims of innocence. He also challenged the prosecution of the case by the state, pointing out that at no time had medical testimony been presented at the trial to support the woman's charge that she had been raped.

Mr. Bunin wrote also that . . . "A doctor who examined her (the girl) refused to tell the Times whether there was evidence that she had been criminally attacked." The boys all denied having attacked the girl. Bunin urges that a new trial be given the trio.

— "FORTIETH" IN '50 —

27e(1) 1950 Georgia

8045 X

Wallace Dies Declaring Innocence

Constitution

Punishment

Convicted Slayer Prays at Chair

Sat. 11-4-50

By WILLIAM M. BATES

REIDSVILLE, Nov. 3—(U.P.)—One throbbing surge from the Georgia electric chair stilled John Wallace's claims of innocence Friday as the State drew expiation for the murder of a sharecropper.

Wallace died with a prayer "for the Governor and the Pardon and Parole Board, who didn't know the facts." Kneeling before the chair that was to take his life, he also repeated his denial of guilt to his Lord.

Atlanta Ga.

Wallace finished his 35-foot "last mile" march from his cell to the death chamber at 10:36 a. m. At 10:43, the current was turned on. At 10:49, Wallace was pronounced dead.

Thus ended the bald, burly cattleman's two-year fight through every court up to the U. S. Supreme tribunal to avoid paying with his life for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner.

Turner, who lived on Wallace's place and wrangled repeatedly with his landlord about ownership of cattle and moonshining, was so little known that for a long time neighbors thought his brother, Wilson, was the murder victim.

Wallace by contrast was a prosperous and well-known figure in his own Meriwether County domain. By the time he finished his fight for life Friday morning he was penniless.

Wallace held an unprecedented pre-execution press conference at which he reiterated his claim of innocence. He then walked the 35 feet behind Prison Chaplain W. L. Huggins and escorted by a Deputy and Assistant Warden. But Wallace, calm throughout, did not need their help.

Kneeling before the white-painted electric chair, Wallace prayed:

"Oh God, I come before you and pray that You stand ready to receive me in Your house.

"I want to pray too for my old uncle, now 80 years old, who will be coming soon to Your house. I pray we meet again . . . I pray for the Governor and the Pardon and Parole Board who didn't know the facts.

"I want to say before You that I am not guilty of this crime for which I am now paying the penalty."

Wallace then stepped unaided into the chair. The electrician strapped the electrodes on his right leg, adjusted the death helmet and masked the doomed man's face.

The chaplain prayed with Wallace and held his hand until just before the execution. As the minister withdrew, Wallace said through the muffling mask:

"Good-by men, I love everybody. I know I'm on my way to Heaven."

The current hummed and Wallace died.

Wallace's story, which he repeated Friday, was that he shot Turner accidentally in Meriwether County while questioning him about cattle thefts.

The State tried him and convicted him, however, in Coweta County. Eyewitnesses testified that Wallace and two other men, who subsequently drew life terms, chased Turner into Coweta, clubbed him mortally with rifle butts and took his body back to Meriwether.

Wallace is to be buried at his native Chipley Saturday.

27e(1) 1950

Georgia

Reference- 13c - 1950 done

8058

TWO GIVEN LIFE SENTENCES FOR SLAYING NEGRO

Greenville, Ga. (SNS) Two white men in this small Georgia town were sentenced to life imprisonment Thursday for the alleged slaying of a Negro on August 18. Another white man was given from three to five years to serve in prison.

The incident was one that made history in the annuals of Georgia's legal procedure.

Official sources report that all three men entered pleas of guilty before Judge Chester A. Byars in Meriwether Superior Court.

The men involved were Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn who drew life sentences. Jack Dunn was given three to five years sentence.

The three men were charged with the slaying of Clinton Walker. Mr. Walker's body was found in White Oak Creek near Gay. Reliable sources report that Mr. Walker's body was pierced by three pistol bullets.

A report from the Sheriff's office report that Mr. Walker was shot because he knew a lot about illegal whiskey traffic in the vicinity.

Daily World
Fri. 9-8-50
Atlanta, Ga.

GEORGIA IN BRIEF

(Lynching)

3 White Men Held In Slaying of Negro

NEWNAN, Ga., Aug. 26—(AP)—Three white men have been arrested in connection with the slaying of a Newnan Negro, Sheriff Lamar Potts said Saturday.

He identified them as Warner Hannah of Brooks, and Jack and Herbert Dunn, ~~brothers, of Haralson~~.

Sheriff Sutton Gill, of adjoining Meriwether County, arrested them and is holding them in the Meriwether jail in Greenville.

The body of the Negro, Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, was found Aug. 18 in a creek near Gay, Ga., Potts said. He had been shot ~~three times~~. 8-27-50

Potts said Hannah had signed a statement that he, the Dunns and the Negro were together the night of Aug. 18. Walker worked for the [illegible]

They were drinking, Hannah's statement said, and set out in a car to find more liquor. Hannah added he stopped on a bridge to examine his radiator and while in front of the car heard three shots.

He saw the Dunns carry the body over to the creek, he continued. The Dunn brothers deny any part in the crime.

Two Given Life Sentences For Slaying Negro

27e(1)

GREENVILLE, Ga—(SNS)—Two white men in this small Georgia town were sentenced to life imprisonment Thursday for the alleged slaying of a Negro on August 18. Another white man was given from three to five years to serve in prison.

27e(1) 1950 Georgia (1948) 8046

Wallace Told To Pay Wife Of Slain Man

Spring 1948

John Wallace, Meriwether County farmer facing electrocution, has been ordered to pay damages to the widow of Wilson Turner, in connection with whose death he was convicted of murder.

Constitution

A Meriwether County Superior court jury Monday awarded Mrs. Wilson Turner $7,500 damages against Wallace and Herring Sivell, who is serving a life sentence in the slaying. Court officials said it did not matter whether the defendants "pay half and half or not."

Wed.

[illegible] 50

Wallace received news of the verdict in his [illegible] Fulton Tower with blank amazement.

"I'm absolutely flat," the balding prisoner declared. "I'm devoid of funds to pay any part of it. Where I'm sitting now I simply haven't any way of figuring out where to get any money.

Atlanta

Ga.

"In fact," Wallace added with grim amusement, "I'm not too sure that I'm not entitled to some damages myself . . . from what I've been through."

Mrs. Turner sued four men for $74,280, or two thousand dollars for each of her husband's years of expected life. The jury dismissed the claim against two of the men, T. P. Strickland and Henry Mobley, both of whom are under life sentence for implication in the April, 1948, slaying.

27e(1) 1950 Illinois

8048

Returns $5,000 Verdict In Mob Violence Case

27e(1) Ill.

CHICAGO (ANP)— An all-white circuit court jury returned a $5,000 damages verdict here last week in favor of the Rev. Clarice Moore, paster of All Nations Holiness church for the loss of her eye in August, 1947, as a result of mob violence.

Memphis, Tenn.

The case, filed by Atty. Ulysses S. Keys, was based on the anti-lynch law passed by the Illinois legislature, which provides that: "If any person is injured by a collection of people numbering two or more, in their attempt to regulate or correct this action (lynching), can recover from the city or county for any damages done to his person or property in an amount up to $10,000."

Nov 17 50

World

Rev. Moore testified that on August 17, 1947, she left her church with her husband, Rev. Butler Moore; Rev. Sampson Southern assistant patsor; and two missionaries to go to Harvey, Ill. At 103rd and Halsted streets, they came upon "some 300 or 400 people" milling around with stones and sticks in their hands and threaetning colored motorists.

She said more than 50 police officers were directing traffic. The automobile in which she was riding was routed west by the police. At 107th and Vincennes another mob of about 75 to 100 people attacked their autombile with stones and sticks. One of the stones, according to minister struck her in the eye. As a result of the blow she lost her sight in that eye and it was later removed.

The incident occurred during the outbreak of violence which followed the moving of eight Negro veterans in the Fernwood Veterans Housing project. The rioting continued for many days.

The current suit is the second to be decided in favor of a Negro citizen-victim of mob violence in Chicago in the last 30 yeors. In 1949. Atty. Keys won a judgement of $2,000 in favor of Kenneth Kennedy for injuries sustained at the Airport Homes project.

The city indicated it would appeal the Moore case. There are ~~30 or more similar suits awaiting~~ trial.

27e(1) 1950 Mississippi

8047 ×

8047

Farmer Mobbed

Lynch Trial Under Way

Courier

PITTSBORO, Miss.—The trial of the first of a mob trio, accused of lynching a 45-year-old tenant farmer last summer, was resumed in the Calhoun County Circuit Court Monday morning of this week.

Sat 4-8-50

The jury began to hear evidence Saturday in the trial of James Moore, a member of the mob who, the state charged, actually killed Malcolm Wright, the lynched Victim. Wright was slain last July 2 on a lonely Chickasaw County road, near Houston, Miss., in the presence of his horrified wife and four small children. The case was transferred to Calhoun County on a change of venue.

Two other white men involved in the lynching James (Red) Kelum and Eunice Gore, a soldier stationed at Keelser Field, Biloxi, Miss., will probably be tried later in separate trials.

Courier
Sat. 4-8-50
Pittsburgh, Pa.

27e(1) 1950

Mississippi

8057 done X

White Man Freed Of Lynch Charge

PITTSBORO, Miss. — (ANP) — Another lynching last week was added to the massive list of unsolved murders when a white man, James Moore, 20, was found not guilty in the slaying of a Negro, Malcolm Wright, 48, on a Mississippi road last July 2.

The dead man's widow, Mrs. Virginia Wright, and two of her four children, all of whom saw the killing, described the attack by Moore and two other young white toughs on the dead man, but the all-white jury took the word of Moore against them.

Moore claimed that his was a case of self-defense because the Negro attacked him with a "short hooked piece of iron." According to Wright's family, Moore, along with James Kellum, [illegible], and Eunice Gore, 22, jumped on the victim because he "hogged the road" with his mule and wagon.

The trial lasted three days during which the Calhoun county court house was jammed. On the day of the verdict it was a foregone conclusion that Moore would be freed, and only a few people came to hear the decision. The jury took two ballots with the first vote being 9 to 3 for acquittal.

When the decision was announced Moore looked at the jurors and said, "I want to thank you gentlemen."

e (1)

Wright was a well respected tenant farmer in the area. Describing how he was killed were his wife, his son, Henry, 12, and daughter, Mary, 16. Two infant children also saw their father slain.

Kellum and Gore are scheduled to go on trial for the murder in September when the Calhoun court reconvened.

X

8049

Lynch Victim's Mother Is Paid

27e(1) S.C.

Greenville, S. C., March 16 (AP). Greenville County has issued a check for $2000 to the estate of Willie Earle, mob victim, whose body was found in Greenville County more than three years ago, it was learned late tonight.

3-18-50

The check was sent this week to Te[illegible] Earle, mother of the victim and administratrix of his estate. She lives in Pickens County.

State provisions provide for payment of not less than $2000 by a county to the personal representative of a victim of a fatal lynching.

Reviewing The News

BY WILLIAM GORDON

Reports from reliable sources reveal that the mother of Willie Earle, South Carolina lynch victim, has received $2,000 as compensation for the 1947 lynching of her son.

The sum of $2,000 is a very cheap price to pay for the brutal murder of an individual. Just how much comfort can a mother gain from spending money acquired for the death of her own flesh and blood? All the money in the world could not restore the significance of what any child means to his parents.

27e(1)

S.C.

The $2,000 that South Carolina is spending in the interest of compensating the mother of this unfortunate lynch victim should be coupled with millions more appropriated by the state purposely to track down the barbaric criminals that committed the act. The whole affair reflects action of an uncivilized force, existing in contemplation of ignorance and white supremacy, operating under an organized pattern of prejudice and hate.

3-25-50

It is not surprising but pathetic that a people who have been exposed to civilization so long can continue to engage in barbaric activities. A lot of these mob performances can be traced to the type of political leadership maintained by states like South Carolina and others who are loyal to pre-civil war methods and patterns. If this type of leadership were eliminated, crimes of this sort would rapidly fade from the American scene.

The 31 Greenville, S. C. taxi drivers, believed to be the lynchers of Earle were all acquitted after "white wash" trial. The case which made international headlines also became an international disgrace civilized men.

Lynch Victim's Mother Gets $2,000 Check

27e(1)

World S.C.

GREENVILLE, S. C. — (ANP) — Greenville County has paid the mother of Willie Earle $2,000 "compensation" for the 1947 lynching of her son.

3-23-50

She received the money under a South Carolina law providing that the estate of a lynch victim receive $2,000 from the county in which he was killed.

Atlanta, Ga.

The lynching made international headlines when 31 Greenville taxi-drivers, believed to have been the lynchers, were indicted for murder. After a "white-wash" trial, they were all acquitted.

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5 Freed In Mob Violence Case

27e(1) S.C.

CONWAY, S.C., Oct.—(AP)—Five men went free Thursday when the Horry County Grand Jury failed to indict them on charges of conspiracy to commit mob violence.

The case grew out of the Ku Klux Klan demonstration at a Negro night club near Myrtle Beach Aug. 26. A Conway Policeman, J. D Johnston, who was wearing a Klan robe, was killed in the bullet-punctuated fracas.

Those discharged on the no true bill were Thomas L. Hamilton of Leesville, grand dragon of the Association of Carolinas Klans; C. Creel, Conway service station operator; Greenville G. Sawyer, Jr., Effingham construction worker; C. M. Former Florence policeman; and R. L. Sims, Jr., Florence truck driver.

Solicitor Reuben Long handed the bills to the grand jury Monday. At that time, Judge E H. Henderson of Bamberg commended Sheriff C. E. Sasser for his law enforcement work. Sasser had led the investigation that led the arrest of the five. About a dozen others arrested were not held at a preliminary hearing last Saturday.

Charles Fitzgerald, night club proprietor, was held for a time in jail after the shooting. Johnston's funeral was attended by some 2,000 persons. He left widow and five children.

27e(1) 1950 Virginia

8050 done X

CRC Reports Leader In First '50 Lynching Convicted, Gets 20 Years

Daily Worker Fri. 3-10-50

RICHMOND, Va. — The leader of the white lynch mob which axed Samuel Taylor, 38-yr.-old Negro farmer, to death near Ballsville last New Year's Eve in the first lynching of 1950 has been convicted of second degree murder and given 20 years in prison, the Civil Rights Congress reports.

27e(1) Va.

Observers at the trial called the verdict "a partial victory which proves that the guilty in lynchings, frame-ups and cases of police brutality definitely can be punished when ~~Negro and white~~ Americans unite to demand it."

Oga.

Hundreds of members of the Negro community in and around Ballsville, jam-packed the Powhattan Court House for the two-day trial. the observers reported. Many stood in the court-room from early morning until late evening. A large number did not leave their standing spots for lunch on either day.

"Partial" Victory Praised By Group; Hundreds At Trial

Although there was a preponderance of evidence that the lynch mob leader, Frank Clayton, pre-meditatedly and in cold blood murdered Samuel Taylor, the jury did not return a verdict of murder in the first degree as requested by Commonwealth Attorney W. R. Blanford.

One of the reasons for this failure, CRC's observers stated, was the constant race-baiting by Defense Attorney Flannagan who tried to discredit the character of the prosecution's chief witness, Bernard Hague and Mrs. Annie Morris, both white. They were visiting Allen Liggon, Taylor's neighbor ,on the day of the slaying.

Flannagan also attempted to intimidate the two Negro jurors by declaring that he had a right to strike them off the jury, but that he knew they were going to "do the right thing."

When the jury brought in its decision on the evening of March 1, most of the Negro spectators agreed that the partial victory was due to their tremendous turnout, both at the trial and at Taylor's funeral.

More than 350 friends and neighbors and over 60 cars were counted in Taylor's funeral procession.

Other members of the lynch gang, though known, are still free.

Taylor was found in a pool of blood on New Year's morning by his own father, Spencer Taylor, who is 78 years old. His right ear was cut, his throat was slashed with deep cuts, and a deep,long gash, made with an axe, was found in his back.

LEGAL PUNISHMENT OF LYNCHERS
1950

Greenville County, South Carolina, during the week of March 16, paid to the mother of Willie Earle, who was lynched in that county in 1947, the sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such sum as minimum payment.

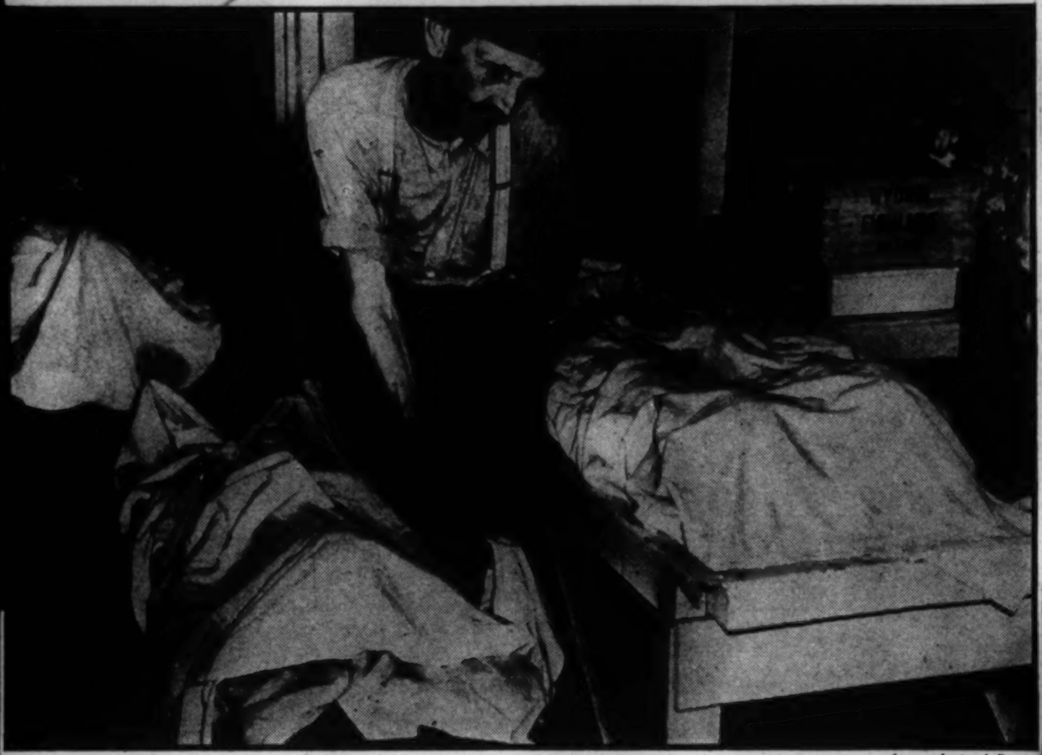
On April 4, in the Calhoun County Circuit Court, James Moore, age 20, white, who participated in the lynching of Malcolm Wright, Negro, age about 45, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Mississippi on July 2, 1949 for hogging the road, was found not guilty in the slaying. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well respected tenant farmer in the area.

On June 28, 1950, in the St. Clair County Circuit Court, Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24 years old, white, of Pell City, Alabama, was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in the slaying of Charlie Hurst. He was later released on a $3,000 appeal bond. Claude Luker, 52, was tried and cleared. C. M. Hunter, the Rev. Alvin Horn and Albert Wilson, the other men indicted for the crime were released on $5,000 bond.

On September 7, 1950 in Greenville, Georgia, in the Meriwether County Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for the slaying of Jack Walker, laborer, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker on August 18. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

On November 3, John Wallace, white, was electricuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the killing; namely, Herring Sivell, T. P. Strickland, and Henry Mobley.

File: (B4a) Ga. R C.



Associated Press

Coroner & Lynching Victims
Under an oak.

GEORGIA

Time Magazine
New York, N.Y.

The Best People Won't Talk

Gene Talmadge's campaign to be governor of Georgia had ripped the thin gauze of decency from the body of his state. Last week the nation saw the running sores beneath it. Sun 8-5-46

34

In Rupert District of South Georgia's Taylor County, Macie Snipes was the only Negro to vote. The day after election four white men called him out from supper. Macie Snipes staggered back into the house with blood gushing from the bullet wounds in his belly. A coroner's jury solemnly reported that he had been killed by one of his visitors in self defense.

Then the hate of white men for their Negro neighbors burst forth in a lynching bee seldom equaled for viciousness in the state. It began at the jail in Monroe (pop. 4,000), only 40 miles east of Atlanta. There Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro farmhand, was in trouble. He had stabbed a white man. He had been locked up for ten days. The white man was still in the hospital.

One night last week the deputy sheriff opened the jail door, and told Roger that Mister Loy Harrison was there to fetch him. Roger's sister-in-law and her husband George Dorsey, just discharged after service overseas with the Army, both worked on Harrison's farm. At their urging ex-convict (bootlegging) Harrison had put up $600 bail to free Roger; the Dorseys and Roger's wife Dorothy were all waiting outside in the car. Mister Harrison would take care of everything.

Shortcut. Loy Harrison, his 275 pounds sweating uncomfortably behind the wheel of an old Pontiac, started on the road toward home while Roger Malcolm chattered happily. Six miles out from Monroe, Harrison turned off on a rough, sun-drenched, red-clay shortcut between the cotton fields.

When he reached the wooden bridge over muddy Apalachee creek, Harrison jammed on the brakes. A car blocked the bridge. A band of 20 white men, unmasked, armed with pistols and shotguns, moved silently out of the roadblock.

Said Loy Harrison: "A big man who was dressed mighty proud in a double-breasted brown suit was giving the orders. He pointed to Roger and said, 'We want that nigger.' Then he pointed to George Dorsey, my nigger, and said, 'We want you, too, Charlie.' I said, 'His name ain't Charlie, he's George.' Someone said 'Keep your damned big mouth shut. This ain't your party.'" Sun 8-5-46

Shotgun. Harrison watched part of the mob lead quivering Roger Malcolm and George Dorsey down a sandy track toward an oak tree. The Negro wives left behind in the car began to shriek. Harrison heard one of them call out the name of one of the mob, but swore he couldn't remember what it was.

Then "the big man said 'Git them bitches, too.' A little fellow wearing Army shoes, clothes and an Army cap held a shotgun on me. One man said, 'Let's shoot him too.' The big man thought it over. He asked me twice, 'Do you recognize anybody?' I said, 'No, you shouldn't shoot me.'"

Loy Harrison silently looked on as the men dragged the struggling women over to the oak tree and shoved them beside the bound figures of their husbands. Then the mob fired three pointblank volleys into their prisoners.

Back in the jail at Monroe, Deputy Sheriff Howard picked up the jangling phone. The voice on the other end was Loy Harrison's. "Mr. Howard," it said, "they just hijacked me and killed my niggers."

• • •

This week Governor Ellis Arnall offered $10,000 in rewards to solve Walton County's "mass murder . . . one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our state."

But Major William F. Spence, Georgia State Police head, complained: "We just can't cope with the case. . . . The best people in town won't talk about this." Loy Harrison, who had lived in those parts all his life, still could not identify either members of the mob or its "dressed mighty proud" ringleader. Sun 8-5-46

Said Governor-Elect Gene Talmadge: ". . . While I am Governor, I know that such atrocities will be at a minimum."

International

Loy Harrison
Across a bridge.

27e(2) 1950 Alabama

8059

Miner To Get 11 Years In Rape Conviction

Advertiser

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 30 — (AP) — A 27-year-old miner Saturday was under 11-year sentence on conviction of raping a young Trussville matron at knifepoint.

A jury found Ernest E. Bowman guilty Friday. He was accused of forcing his way into the woman's apartment July 15 and assaulting her.

Montgomery

Negro rapist gets hearing by governor

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 28—(AP)—A 28-year-old Negro convicted of raping a white woman had a chance today to ask Gov. James E. Folsom to set aside his death sentence.

News

27e(2)

The governor scheduled a clemency hearing today for Jim Arrington, whose excution had been set for early tomorrow morning at Kilby Prison.

9-28-50

Arrington lost his appeals to the State and U. S. Supreme Courts after being sentenced to death March 15, 1949.

During the trial, some two dozen highway patrolmen with sub-machine guns guarded the Negro. When the death sentence was returned the crowded courtroom broke into cheers.

Ala

Arrington was hustled to Kilby after the trial because, Sheriff H. G. Horn said, "Some fellows looked like they were going to get violent."

Folsom Grants 2-Week Reprieve To Jim Arrington

Advertiser

Gov. James E. Folsom has set a clemency hearing Sept. 28 for Jim Arrington, Negro sentenced to death in the rape of a white woman.

9-15-50

Arrington's execution was scheduled early Friday at Kilby Prison but Folsom Thursday announced a two-week reprieve to provide for the clemency hearing.

Montgomery

The Negro was convicted at Luverne, Ala., March 15, 1949, on charges of raping a 33-year-old white woman and mother of three children.

Ala.

Sheriff H. G. Horn quoted the woman as saying Arrington came up behind her in a field and held her mouth to keep her from screaming.

27e(2)

She identified Arrington as her attacker after looking over a group of Negroes brought in for questioning.

Ala

When the death sentence was announced, a packed courtroom broke into cheers. Two dozen highway patrolmen, armed with sub-machine guns, guarded the prisoner during the trial.

After his conviction, Arrington was rushed to Kilby Prison here because "some fellows looked like they were going to get violent," Horn explained.

Condemned Pleads To Supreme Court

Post-Herald

Sat. 6-17-50

Direct Testimony Rare Procedure

Birmingham, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, June 16 (AP) — The State Supreme Court, which rarely takes direct testimony, heard witnesses give conflicting versions today of the trial of a Negro convicted of raping a white woman and sentenced to death.

27e(2)

Testimony came on a petition aimed at reopening the case against Jim Arrington, 29. Arrington's conviction in Crenshaw County in March, 1949, has already been upheld by both the Alabama and the U. S. Supreme Courts.

The defendant himself, brought into the courtroom from his Kilby Prison death cell, was one of those who took the stand today. He testified he told his lawyer, J. O. Sentell Jr., that he had witnesses to prove his innocence but that the attorney entered a guilty plea at his arraignment.

Arrington said he objected and that the trial judge changed the plea to innocent.

Sentell denied the statement and the state produced affidavits to back up his story.

Rex Thomas, a newspaperman who covered the trial, told how some 30 State Highway Patrolmen as well as local officers guarded the Luverne courtroom during the trial to prevent trouble.

Thomas testified that the crowd of some 500 grew so restless while the jury was deliberating the verdict that the patrolmen drew their guns to keep order. When the death verdict was announced, the newsman said, the crowd shouted and cheered its approval.

Asst. State Atty. Gen. Bernard Sykes objected to Thomas' testimony on the grounds that the petition before the court made no mention of the atmosphere of the trial.

Defense Atty. F. H. Williams of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People won permission to introduce it, however.

"Scottsboro," a Name That Will Live In Infamy

Ala. 27e (2)

Ruby Bates—Victoria Price—Judge Horton. Those names were ringing in your ears nineteen years ago, and they will live in infamy as long as men have memories.

The nation was shocked in 1931 when the news was flashed out of Alabama that six Negroes had raped two white girls in a freight car near Paint Rock. The story told regarding the violations of white women's virtue was so fantastic and unusual that the International Labor Defense decided to investigate the serious charge, resulting finally in the open, voluntary confession of Ruby Bates that the whole story was a hoax and that neither of the girls in question had been touched by the six accused blacks.

The boys were tried by Judge Horton at Scottsboro, and it is from the trial city they received the cognomen, "Scottsboro Boys." Scottsboro has been a stench in the nostrils of all lovers of justice and fair play for the past 19 years. It was brought out in the testimony at the trial that the two girls in question were mere prostitutes who had slept in a jungle near Chattanooga, where they had had illicit relationships with men of their own race, and that following a rock throwing battle between the whites and blacks on the freight cars in which they were all riding, the Negroes were arrested charged with rape, the girls preferring the charges doing so to avoid vagrancy commitments.

Call & Post

Sat. 7-29-50

Cleveland, Ohio

Across the years Alabama has tried as best it could to retrieve itself from these infamous, detestable convictions, but it was too steeped in race prejudice and hate to make open confession of its guilt, so that one by one the Scottsboro Boys have been released; but not Heywood Patterson, who has fought back continuously. Patterson, despite the fact he is not guilty of the crime ,had to be used as a lesson to the other thousands of blacks in Alabama to prove that it is useless for a Negro to fight back even though everyone, including his oppressors, knows he is wronged.

This case marked the first instance when the demoted citizenship status of black people here in America was heralded around the world, and caused Dixie for the first time to sit up and take notice to the despoilation that was being heaped upon its hitherto good name. Revelations from this horrible inquisition and torture of liberty shocked for the first time the conscience of Dixie and formed the groundwork for the liberalism we today find sweeping almost every section of the nation.

It was the contrite and penitent spirit of Ruby Bates that finally exposed to view the degenerate and inhuman tactics used in the South to destroy the manhood freedom of the blacks, and to us she will always be a heroine, for she must have realized that she would forever be ostracized in her section, not because she was a whore, but because her conscience told her she should no longer contribute her voice and evidence to the condemnation of innocent black men. We have often wondered what finally happened to Ruby Bates, a southern prostitute, who openly confessed her guilt to the world, and said that the charges against these defenseless black youths were entirely and totally groundless. God bless her soul, she was another Mary Magdalene, out of whom seven devils had been cast.

It was Ruby Bates' confession and the unrelenting prosecution of these cases by Samuel Leibowitz, of New York, who was employed by the International Labor Defense, that should forever silence Uncle Tom Negroes from joining with reaction in the South to say that the South does not need any interference from the North in the conduct of its internal affairs. But for Samuel Leibowitz and the thousands of dollars that poured into the Scottsboro defense funds from the North and all over the world, Dixie would not have been shocked into her senses and allowed to see herself as other people see her.

Well, the last of the Scottsboro boys are free. With the refusal of the Michigan governor to permit extradition of this innocent boy who fought back, the curtain rings down on one of the most shameful chapters in American history.

8061

Two Negroes Win Stays Of Execution

Negro 27e(2) Ala. Thurs. 2-2-50

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 2 —(AP)—The lives of two condemned Negroes, one a killer, the other convicted of raping a white woman have been spared at least another month.

Gov. James E. Folsom has granted stays of execution for Jim Arrington, of Crenshaw County, and Dorsey Palmore, of Covington. Arrington, who was to die in Kilby Prison's electric chair Feb. 10 got a reprieve until March 10. Palmore's execution was postponed from Feb 17 to March 24.

* * *

ONLY TUESDAY the governor's office announced that clemency hearings had been set for Feb 8 and Feb. 15. No reason was given for the reprieves.

Arrington was convicted at Luverne last Feb. 28 of raping a white woman. Thirty state highway patrolmen guarded the courthouse during the one-day trial and the courtroom crowd cheered and shouted when the jury brought in its verdict.

NAACP Intervenes In Rape Conviction

Journal & Guide

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A stay of execution was obtained this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for James Arrington, convicted of rape by the Circuit Court of Crenshaw county.

Sat. 3-18-50

Franklin H. Williams, NAACP assistant special counsel, who secured the stay of execution, indicated that the NAACP is convinced that Arrington was denied due process of law, and will appeal his conviction to the United States Supreme Court. Arrington claims that a lawyer appointed by the Court to defend him failed to interview him and stated "This defendant thinks I'm going to do something for him, but I ain't."

Mr. Williams is being assisted in the case by Miss M. A. Ashley Dickerson, a young Negro woman attorney of Montgomery.

Father, 22, Faces Rape Charges

27e(2) Ala.

BESSEMER, ALA., May 4—(AP)—A 22-year-old father Thursday was held without bond on charges of raping two teen-age girls who were playing hookey from school.

Advertiser

Solicitor Howard Sullinger said Ed Homer Willmon, a rubber plant worker, was accused of raping the girls after they joined a joy-riding party Monday morning.

Sullinger withheld the names of the girls, who were returned to their homes at Tuscaloosa, Ala. He said no charges had been preferred against two other men and a young woman who were members of the party.

Fri. 5-5-50

Here is the report Sullinger made:

The girls were picked up Monday on the way to school at Tuscaloosa. They joined the others in a car after being invited to go out and take some snapshots.

After driving to a lonely wooded spot near Bessemer, all of the party left except one of the schoolgirls and one of the men. He raped the girl.

Montgomery Ala.

Later the others returned, and the same man raped the other girl after driving to a place on the Tuscaloosa highway. Then the girls were taken back to Tuscaloosa.

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5 Youths Bound Over On Assault Charges

27e(2) Ala.

WETUMPKA, ALA., May 11—(AP)—Five Elmore County youths, charged with carnal knowledge of a 14-year-old Montgomery girl were bound over to the grand jury Thursday after a preliminary hearing.

Advertiser

Three of the youths were also bound over on charges of rape, Justice of the Peace W. E. Strickland said.

Fri. 5-12-50

They were identified by Strickland as Ralph Cooper, 17; B. F. Wyatt, Jr., 22; Cecil Smith, 17; Henry G. Jackson, 20, and Hubert Cooper, 20.

Ralph Cooper and Smith were acquitted of rape charges, Strickland said. Bond was set at $1,000 in each case.

Montgomery Ala.

They are accused of picking up the young Montgomery girl after a dance early April 19, taking her to Elmore County and assaulting her.

The girl said she was taken to Prattville after the assault and was later returned to Montgomery and released, Strickland related.

Court Refuses Plea By Negro

Advertiser

WASHINGTON, May 1—(AP)—An Alabama Negro, sentenced to die in the electric chair after being convicted of raping a white woman, lost his appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court Monday.

The court refused to review the trial of Jim Arrington, 28, who was convicted at Luverne on March 15, 1949.

27e(2)

A crowd of some 500 white men cheered when the jury returned its verdict after the Luverne trial. State highway patrolmen, armed with submachine guns and tear gas bombs, watched over the trial to prevent violence.

Tues. 5-2-50 Montgomery Ala.

Arrington's sentence was upheld by the state supreme court and Gov. James E. Folsom granted him two reprieves awaiting the U. S. Supreme Court's decision.

His attorneys contended his court-appointed counsel did not make the proper defense efforts during the Luverne trial. No witnesses were offered in the Negro's defense.

Last Prisoner In 'Scottsboro' Case Is Freed

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 10 —(AP) — The last of the "Scottsboro Boys" to leave prison took his wife and child and headed away from the South Saturday.

News

Andy Wright was one of nine Negroes accused of raping two white women on a freight train in 1931. Their trial at Scottsboro was a sensation of the '30s.

27e(2)

The tall, 38-year-old Negro left prison Friday with $13.45 "go free" money in his pocket, and forgiveness in his heart. He said he was going to Albany, N. Y., to take a job as a hospital porter.

Ala.

"I've got no hard feelings toward anyone," he told newspaper men who gave him a ride to the railroad station.

Sun. 6-11-50

"I'm not mad beacuse the white girl lied about me. If she's still living, I feel sorry for her because I don't guess she sleeps much at night."

Birmingham Ala.

Wright and eight other Negroes were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931. They were charged with the rape of Mrs. Victoria Price and Ruby Bates.

The Bates girl repudiated her testimony she had been raped. The rape story was a "frame up," she said. Eight of the nine were convicted and sentenced to death at the first trial, but the verdict was reversed.

Wright was given a parole in 1944 after serving seven years.

The Scottsboro Story Nears Its Conclusion

ALABAMA has just about closed the books on the celebrated Scottsboro case. Many Alabamans would just as soon have wiped out the ugly record years ago. Or rather, they would prefer it had never been written. The last of the "Scottsboro Boys" to remain in prison, **ANDY WRIGHT**, has been paroled, nearly 20 years after an unproven charge of rape was brought against nine friendless, footloose, ignorant Negro boys.

Courier-Journal 27e(2)

The case ranks with that of **SACCO** and **VANZETTI** for its social implications. It became a watchword literally around the world and the very fact of outside interest and activities stiffened the resolution of Alabama juries and prosecutors to oppose "interference." Three convictions with death penalties were set aside by courts shocked by denial of ordinary rights of accused men. On a fourth set of trials, sentences of 75 to 99 years were imposed on five youths. The other four were set free, in an obvious compromise with public conscience.

Ala.

Thurs. 6-8-50

Out of the long case and its stubborn defense have come new customs. Negroes are found today on jury lists in the South, the lack of this being the point on which the U.S. Supreme Court reversed one conviction. Civil rights agitation was given a spur which still is felt in national politics. The case has had an impact profoundly moving.

Louisville Ky.

The parole of **WRIGHT** comes strangely within a week after publication of a book, *Scottsburg Boy*, by **HAYWOOD PATTERSON**, one of the nine defendants, who escaped prison two years ago and is now a fugitive in the East.

Condemned Negro To Plead For Life

Gov. James E. Folsom will hold a clemency hearing Thursday for a Crenshaw County Negro sentenced to death on a charge of raping a 33-year-old white woman.

The Negro, 28-year-old Jim Arrington, lost his appeal to the state and U. S. Supreme Courts. It's up to the governor now to say whether the execution scheduled early Friday morning will be carried out.

Advertiser

Thurs. 2-2-50

A crowded courtroom cheered as Arrington drew the death sentence March 15, 1949, after trial in Crenshaw Circuit Court.

Some two dozen highway patrolmen armed with sub-machine guns guarded the prisoner during the trial.

He was speeded to Kilby prison after his arrest. Sheriff H. G. Horn explained it was done because "some fellows looked like they were going to get violent."

Montgomery Ala.

Arrington was charged with rape after the white woman, mother of three children, picked him as her attacker from a group of Negroes brought in for questioning.

It Washes Ashore Again

275 (3)

Advertiser

Wed. 5-24-50

Montgy Ala

BACK IN THE THIRTIES, as the Scottsboro Case went to trial after trial, The Advertiser carried an editorial exhorting "Throw Away This Body of Death!" Throughout the reaches of civilization "Scottsboro" was stigmatizing Alabama and the South.

But the Body of Death is not easily thrown away. Its corruption is part of the ingrained attitude of the country toward the South. The rotten corpse keeps washing back upon our shore. It is washed ashore again with the publication of "Scottsboro Boy" (Doubleday, Doran, Inc.).

It is the story of one of the nine Scottsboro boys, Haywood Patterson, as told to Earl Conrad.

We adjudged it simply some more "Uncle Tom's Cabin" bilge and thumbed through it only because of its references to The Advertiser. What we discovered was as vivid a personal narrative as we have read in many years. It is a remarkable first person singular dramatization of the jungle conditions that prevail in Alabama prisons, conditions that have been officially reported dozens of times but never with such impact.

The appendix of the book carries a great deal of the official record of the trials. One such is the opinion of Judge James E. Horton. He threw the cases out of court as frauds, and for that, he was turned out of office.

To read the record showing the fraudulence of the evidence in these after-years when the agitators are no longer here to inflame and distract us is to feel shame that Alabama justice could ever have sunk to so degraded a level, a level possibly as low as that of the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

★

THE NINE Scottsboro boys were tried for raping two female hoboes, Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, on a freight train as it chuffed across Jackson County 19 years ago. The women claimed rape, but two physicians found no evidence of it. One of the defendants was a juvenile so corrupted by gonorrhea that it would have been impossible for him to have committed such a crime. A note written by one of the trulls and intercepted advised her boy friend that she had lied in accusing the men.

The case in time became one of international interest and even the communists got in on the act. It devoured the substance of Alabama's good name. It is part of the nation's accumulation of impressions about the South that FEPC zealots are able to exploit. Scottsboro, we suppose, is an element of the epithet Dixiecrat as flung carelessly about over the nation.

But all of that is well known, and what we remark here is the literary quality of the book. Patterson's collaborator has supplied the form of the narrative, but it is plainly told so far as possible in the word and idiom of Patterson.

The language is raw and brutal. A sordid story is related in sordid Anglo-Saxon words.

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PATTERSON was one of the two remaining Scottsboro defendants in prison (Andy Wright has a parole hearing next month). In his book will be found news for Prison Director Frank Boswell (whom Patterson describes as having a "long slick head and no hair straight back on it, just on the side. He had a sharp straight-down face. He had no shape or form I could tell about. . . . Nothing fit him. His pants were way down off his stomach, and he walked funny. . . ."). Patterson escaped from Kilby in 1948 and has been at large since. He is being hidden somewhere in the country and collaborated on this book in some undisclosed rendezvous. Just how he escaped from the millet patch at Kilby will be news to Kilby officials.

The escape is the last chapter in the book and an absorbing account of a manhunt writted by the hunted. Patterson writes—

> . . . I was down in the water. The dogs jumped in. They scented me off the water. I just said, "I'll get rid of you this time."
>
> It was the same three dogs I tied. I don't know whether the dog boys had found them and released them or whether they got free themselves. (Patterson had tied them up previously with his shirt.) I knew they were the same because they had some portions of my shirt on their collars.
>
> I figured the dog boys must be pretty near behind the dogs.
>
> When the first dog came to me I grabbed him, carried him under the water.
>
> I called another. He swam over to me. I carried him under the water. I could feel him kick.
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> I had all I could do to hold the rascal under. He was terrible. He was hard to die. He scuffled so he got his head up out of the water.
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> I knew it meant life or death for me.
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> The third dog was wise. It was the same little fellow that stayed away from me before. Seemed like he had an understanding what was going on. I tried to sweeten him, but he wouldn't come out on the water. . . . Thereafter I had no more trouble with the dogs.

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PATTERSON describes how at Atmore Prison the jungle life amid the dirks and floggings made him so indifferent that he made a hobby of catching snakes with his bare hands. With his hat he would make a rattler spew out all his venom in false strikes, then grasp and stomp him.

Patterson, of course, puts Alabama prison officials (by name) in the worst possible light and perhaps he lies on some of them. But he does not, strikingly enough, seek to paint himself as a stainless martyr. He aggressively depicts himself as a trouble-maker who carried a dirk and assaulted fellow prisoners repeatedly, who drank as much whisky as he could get, and unabashedly has homosexual love affairs with a series of inmates.

275 (3)

HE BOASTS that his spirit was never broken by doses of castor oil, scourgings, doghouse sentences and repeated attempts on his life, some inspired by prison guards and some by jealousy over certain inmates.

Possibly Patterson is lying and fabricating in specific instances, but of the jungle conditions in general he describes at Atmore and Kilby Prisons there is no doubt for they are voluminously confirmed by official studies and the testimony, often printed in this newspaper, of Prison Director Boswell. What Patterson's story says in large part is that in Alabama we have no segregation of prisoners. We don't have it because we lack prison facilities. We don't build them because we say we haven't the money.

If this book sells like we have a hunch it will, national attention is going to be focused on our prison system. . . . The Scottsboro body keeps washing up on our shore.

It Washes Ashore Again

275(2)

Advertiser

Wed. 5-24-50

Montgomery Ala

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Patterson, of course, puts Alabama prison officials (by name) in the worst possible light and perhaps he lies on some of them. But he does not, strikingly enough, seek to paint himself as a stainless martyr. He aggressively depicts himself as a trouble-maker who carried a dirk and assaulted fellow prisoners repeatedly, who drank as much whisky as he could get, and unabashedly has homosexual love affairs with a series of inmates.

275(2)

HE BOASTS that his spirit was never broken by doses of castor oil, scourgings, doghouse sentences and repeated attempts on his life, some inspired by prison guards and some by jealousy over certain inmates.

Possibly Patterson is lying and fabricating in specific instances, but of the jungle conditions in general he describes at Atmore and Kilby Prisons there is no doubt for they are voluminously confirmed by official studies and the testimony, often printed in this newspaper, of Prison Director Boswell. What Patterson's story says in large part is that in Alabama we have no segregation of prisoners. We don't have it because we lack prison facilities. We don't build them because we say we haven't the money.

If this book sells like we have a hunch it will, national attention is going to be focused on our prison system. . . . The Scottsboro body keeps washing up on our shore.

27e(2) 1950 Alabama (Scottsboro) Haywood Patterson

8062

Federal Judge Frees Scottsboro Boy

27e(2) cl

DETROIT—Haywood Patterson, last of the nine Negro Scottsboro defendants, became a free man last Thursday and his first thoughts were for others persecuted as he had been.

St. Louis, Mo.

After Federal Judge Arthur F. Lederle had dismissed the fugitive warrant on which the FBI arrested Patterson here last month after his 1948 flight from an Alabama prison, the liberated man told those who congratulated him:

Afr. 7-21-50

"Don't forget Willie McGee in Mississippi and the other folks down South. I am deeply interested and want to help the people down South, especially in Alabama. Negroes are human beings like whites and they have a right to the same justice."

St. Louis Mo.

McGee is scheduled to be electrocuted in two weeks for a rape he insists he did not commit. He is being defended by the same Civil Rights Congress which won Patterson his freedom.

Scores of Patterson's well-wishers gathered in the courtroom, filling all the seats and standing in the corridors to grasp the defendant's hand. The hush of almost unbearable tension fell over the courtroom as Judge Lederle mounted the bench.

Patterson leaned forward and listened intently as Asst. U. S. Atty. James Soltesz moved for dismissal of the removal proceedings, because the U. S. Attorney at Montgomery, Ala., did not want to prosecute.

Judge Lederle immediately ordered the prisoner released. Then Lederle, who previously had criticized the FBI offices in Montgomery and Detroit for acting independently against Patterson without the request of the State of Alabama and without sanction of the Attorney General in Washington, renewed his vigorous reproval in a speech of sympathy to Patterson.

READ PATTERSON BOOK

"I have tried to treat you with the consideration and dignity which should be accorded to all people as innocent persons," he said. "I have read your book and I feel that you have written diligently and have accomplished some good. I am hoping that some good may come out of your bad experiences.

Afr. St. 7-21-50 St. Louis Mo.

HAYWOOD PATTERSON, left, is congratulated by his lawyer, ERNEST GOODMAN, an executive of the Civil Rights' Congress, shortly after Federal Judge Arthur F. Lederle freed Patterson on charges of fleeing Alabama to avoid completion of a 75-year sentence. Patterson was one of the nine framed youths in the widely publicized Scottsboro case of 1931. The fugitive from the Alabama form of justice was taken into custody in Detroit—Wide World Photo.

"Some good may come out of the recent experience of the District Attorney with the policy on such cases as this. Now I wish to advise the District Attorney:

"1. That these proceedings should not be started on warrants issued by commissioners. The Attorney General should review the procedure in these types of cases.

"2. Congress should re-examine legislation which permits minor officials to issue warrants and deprive people of their liberty prior to presentation of the case to the grand jury."

Patterson thanked Judge Lederle and said that he had never before received that kind of treatment in any court.

The only relief from the solemnity of the proceedings came when Ernest Goodman, Patterson's attorney, voiced the hope that Gov. Folsom of Alabama would grant Patterson a full pardon so that he would feel safe to travel, "North---or South."

The courtroom broke into laughter when Patterson, who has served 16 years in Alabama's jails, interrupted to say emphatically that he had no desire to travel South.

Patterson said his plans were indefinite but he would stay in Michigan for the time being and continue his job as a construction worker. He voiced hope of a pardon and said he would like to change his name so that he would no longer be known as "the Scottsboro boy."

27e(2) 1950 Alabama- (Scottsboro Case) Haywood Patterson

8063

Alabama Fugitive Out On $5,000 Bail

Informer

Det. 7-6-'50

DETROIT, Michigan — Haywood Patterson, "Scottsboro Boy" who was arrested by the FBI here for return to an Alabama jail, has been released on $5,000 bail posted by the Bail Fund of the Civil Rights Congress.

Patterson is scheduled to appear in federal court here on July 13th for a hearing to determine whether an Alabama FBI office's request for extradition will be granted. A warrant issued by the State of Alabama is also reportedly on its way up to the State of Michigan asking for his return.

27e(2)

Patterson, who escaped from Alabama's Kilby Prison a year ago and has been living in hiding since, was arrested by FBI agets under a federal law originally passed to apprehend kidnappers who cross state lines.

Houston

DETROIT — (ANP) — Extradition hearings for Heywood Patterson, one of the famed Scottsboro boys, captured here by the FBI last week, will be held July 13 before Judge Arthur F. Lederle at the U. S. District court.

Patterson was caught last week after nearly two years of freedom following his escape from an Alabama prison. He was one of five Negroes sentenced to prison terms in Alabama for the alleged rape of two white women Mar. 25, 1931.

Nine Negro boys, commonly called the Scottsboro Boys, were originally arrested and tried. Eight were given death sentences after the first trial, while one was freed because he was only 13 years old then. After nearly six years of litigation four of the boys were freed, five were sentenced to prison for rape, and one was sentenced to prison for attacking a deputy sheriff. Their case reached the U.S. Supreme court several times.

Patterson is the only one of the jailed men not released on parole. He escaped with eight other convicts from prison July 20, 1948. Since then he has dictated a book, "Scottsboro Boy," in which he denounces the charges against him and the Alabama prison conditions. When arrested, Patterson said he had been here about three weeks and had been living comfortable on $4700 advanced by the publishers on his book. He also has been employed as a construction worker.

Supporting Patterson in his stand for freedom in Detroit will be the Civil Rights congress, successors to the International Labor Defense which led the fight for freedom of the Scottsboro Boys during the 1930's.

The CRC has asked for an "immediate barrage of telegrams" to Gov. Mennen Williams of Michigan in Lansing requesting that he refuse extradition.

William L. Patterson, CRC executive secretary, who led the ILD campaign for the Scottsboro Boys, said his group would fight to "save Haywood Patterson from a return to the hellish southern jails of Alabama."

Michigan Refuses To Send Patterson Back to Alabama

27e(2)

Lansing, Mich., July 12 (U.P.).—Gov. G. Mennen Williams today refused to return Hayward Patterson, last of the "Scottsboro boys," to Alabama for completion of his 75-year prison sentence.

"Simple justice should require that all the convicted men to be punished equally and I can see no justifiable reason for returning Patterson to prison after his fellow defendants have been released," Williams said.

7-13-50

Washington D.C.

Patterson, arrested here as a Federal fugitive after two years of freedom, faces an extradition hearing in Detroit Thursday. He is free on $5000 bond supplied by the Civil Rights Congress.

The Negro escaped from Montgomery, Ala., State prison in 1948. Patterson and eight other Negroes were charged with raping two white women in a freight train near Scottsboro. Ala., in 1931.

'Case is closed': Folsom—

'Scottsboro Boy' Patterson's freedom is promised today

27e(2) ala

DETROIT, July 13—(AP)—"Scottsboro Boy" Haywood Patterson was promised his freedom today.

Asst. U. S. Dist. Atty. James S. Soltesz said yesterday he would ask that federal charges against Patterson be dropped and that the Negro, convicted or raping two white women in the Scottsboro case of 1931, be freed.

News

Earlier, Michigan Gov. G. Mennen Williams had denied an extradition request and Gov. James E. Folsom of Alabama commented:

"The case is closed as far as I am concerned and I believe that is the wish of all the people of Alabama."

BUT IN MONTGOMERY yesterday, Folsom issued a statement defending the state's prison system and the way it's run.

After escaping from Kilby Prison in 1948, Patterson wrote a book called "Scottsboro Boy." In it, he attacked Alabama prisons and many of their officials.

In an interview here last week, Patterson called all Southerners "yellow" and said he couldn't see why he should be punished for running out of "hell."

Folsom's statement said: "It is appropriate that I say something of the Alabama prison system. . . . First, all prisons are bad when considered in the light of human existence. Second, the Alabama prison system is the best in the United States, after taking into consideration its appropriations."

SEX PERVERSION, which was mentioned in Patterson's book, "is prevalent in all prisons and all armies where the opposite sex is not present," the statement continued. "We believe there is less in Alabama camps than any other (such) prisons in the world."

Patterson was arrested by the FBI here several weeks ago on a charge of fleeing Alabama to avoid imprisonment. He escaped from Kilby Prison after serving nearly 17 years of his 75-year sentence.

Soltesz said yesterday that, in view of Alabama's attitude, he would ask the charges be dropped at a hearing scheduled here today. Patterson now is free under $5,000 bond.

PATTERSON and eight other Negroes were arrested at Paint Rock Ala., in 1931 and charged with raping two white women on a freight train. After nearly six years of litigation, four were freed and the others given jail terms.

All those sentenced to prison except Patterson have been paroled.

Patterson wins extradition fight

LANSING, Mich., July 12—(AP)—Gov. G. Mennen Williams today refused to permit Haywood Patterson, one of the nine defendants in the famed Scottsboro case, to be extradited to Alabama to complete a 75-year sentence imposed in 1931.

27e(2)

Patterson, who spent 16 years in prison, escaped in 1948 and was arrested in Detroit recently by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a fugitive from justice. Williams said the federal authorities "are no longer interested in prosecuting him."

News

Patterson and eight other Negroes were accused in the Scottsboro case of raping a white woman aboard a freight train near Paint Rock, Ala., in 1931.

Wed 7-12-50

Williams said "all of the others involved in the Scottsboro case were released from prison some years ago. Since the trial, one of the two complaining witnesses admitted that she gave perjured testimony after being threatened by local Alabama authorities.

Haywood Patterson's extradition asked

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 11—(AP)—Extradition papers asking Haywood Patterson's return to Alabama to finish serving his 75-year sentence from the "Scottsboro rape case" have been mailed to Michigan authorities.

News

Alabama Prison Director Frank Boswell said yesterday the papers were mailed "in compliance with the law."

27e

Boswell added, however, he thinks "the people of Alabama are not interested in him (Patterson)."

7-11-50

Patterson is one of nine Negroes accused of raping two white women in the famous "Scottsboro case" of 1931. He escaped from Kilby Prison here in 1948 after serving 16 years of his sentence and was captured by the FBI in Detroit, Mich., two weeks ago.

Birmingham Ala

A removal hearing before U. S. District Judge Arthur F. Lederle is scheduled Thursday. Patterson was released under $5,000 bond pending the outcome of the hearing.

Ala

Boswell's action in asking for Patterson's return came a few days after the Negro, in an interview in Detroit, described all Southerners as "yellow" and Boswell as the "rottenest."

He also mentioned Boswell in a book he wrote recently called "Scottsboro Boy." In it he denounced Alabama prisons and their officials.

Folsom Asserts Patterson Case Is Now Closed

GOV. JAMES E. FOLSOM said Wednesday, the case of Haywood Patterson, who was involved in the "Scottsboro Case" is "closed as far as I am concerned and I believe that is the wish of all the people of Alabama."

Advertiser

The brief statement was made after he was notified that Michigan's Gov. G. Mennen Williams denied an extradition request to bring the Negro back to finish a 75-year rape sentence in Alabama.

27e(2) Ala

Patterson escaped two years ago after serving, nearly 17 years. He was captured recently by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents at Detroit on a fugitive warrant.

7-13-50

Governor Williams said he turned down Alabama's request for extradition because federal authorities "are no longer interested in prosecuting him (Patterson).

"All of the others involved in the Scottsboro case were released from prison some years ago," he said. Since the trial one of the two complaining witnesses admitted she gave perjured testimony after being threatened by local Alabama authorities.

Montgomery Ala

"All of the convicted men were equally guilty and simple justice should require that they be equally punished. The others have now been released and I can see no justifiable reason for returning Patterson to prison.

Patterson, author of a recent book, highly critical of Alabama's prison system, was one of nine defendants in the much publicized Scottsboro rape case of the 1930's.

They were charged with raping two white women aboard a freight train near Paint Rock, Ala., in 1931. After nearly six years of litigation four went free. Patterson and three others drew long sentences.

At the original trials eight of the defendants were given death sentences. They were reversed by the U. S. Supreme Court in a series of appeals.

"Scottsboro Boy" Is Bitter, Disillusioned

DETROIT — (SNS) — "I hate those white people down there (in the South). I even got to hate some of the one and two year olds because I knew they'd grow up and mistreat me. I hate everything down there."

Daily World

This was the considered judgment of Haywood Patterson, 38-year-old "Scottsboro Boy," who was interviewed here last week as he awaited trial on charges of fleeing across state lines to avoid punishment.

Juv. 7 e (2)

Bitter and disillusioned, Patterson termed all southern white folks "yellow" and averred that he would "fight with everything I've got" to prevent his return to an Alabama prison to complete a 75-year sentence for the alleged rape of two white women.

7-11-50

Atlanta, Ga.

Patterson was arrested 11 days ago by FBI agents at the home of his sister. He had escaped from an Alabama prison July 17, 1948, after serving 16 years in prison for a crime, which, he says, he did not commit.

The co-author of the controversial book, "The Scottsboro Boy," was one of the nine defendants in the famed Alabama Scottsboro case. The nine men were accused of raping two white women aboard a freight train near Paint Rock, Ala., in 1931.

Four of the men were freed and five were convicted after numerous court appeals. All of the original defendants but Patterson have been paroled.

Stoutly maintaining his innocence, Patterson said: "It doesn't look like they'd want to punish you for running out of hell."

"I can't see why the FBI arrested me. I think they should give me my freedom."

Judge Arthur F. Lederle will entertain a motion for the release of Patterson at a hearing on July 13.

"If they are through with me it looks like they'd give me a pardon," Patterson stated, adding:

"All the white folks down there are yellow. Why I saw 600 around a jail in 1931 trying to kill nine Negro boys." (This was at the Scottsboro jail. The crowd was finally dispersed.)

Scottsboro Boy Case Is Closed As Far As Folsom Is Concerned

Post-Herald

MONTGOMERY, July 12 (AP)—Gov. James E. Folsom said today the case of Scottsboro Haywood Patterson is "Closed as far as I am concerned and I believe that is the wish of all the people of Alabama."

The brief statement was made after he was notified that Michigan's Gov. G. Mennen Williams denied an extradition request to bring the Negro back to finish a 75-year rape sentence in Alabama.

27 e (2)

Patterson escaped two years ago after serving nearly 17 years. He was captured by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents at Detroit on a fugitive warrant.

Thurs.

Governor Williams said he turned down Alabama's request for extradition because federal authorities "are no longer interested in prosecuting him (Patterson).

7-13-50

'All the others involved in the Scottsboro Case were released from prison some years ago," he said. "Since the trial one of the two complaining witnesses admitted that she gave perjured testimony after being threatened by local Alabama authorities.

Birmingham, Ala.

"All of the convicted men were equally guilty and simple justice should require that they be equally punished. The others have now been released and I can see no justifiable reason for returning Patterson to prison."

They were charged with raping two white women aboard a freight train near Paint Rock, Ala., in 1931.

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were released from prison some years ago. . . . I can see no justifiable reason for returning Patterson to prison."

New York, N.Y.

Patterson and eight other Negroes were arrested aboard a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., in 1931 on charges of rapnig two white women. One woman later repudiated her story. The United States Supreme Court twice reversed the death sentence given Patterson and affirmed a seventy-five-year term.

Patterson still could be extradited to Alabama by the Governor of any other state, if he were to go there. He said he expects to remain in Michigan, "for a while at least," and will apply for "a full pardon" from Alabama.

Patterson, whose book, "Scottsboro Boy," telling his story of the case, was published June 1, had been at liberty under a $5,000 bond posted by the Civil Rights Congress, an organization on the Justice Department's subversive list. The F. B. I. arrested him June 27.

Scottsboro Figure Freed as Fugitive

Herald-Tribune

In Detroit, He Will Apply to Alabama for Pardon

DETROIT, July 13 (AP).—A Federal judge today freed Haywood Patterson, thirty-eight-year-old Negro, who had been held on a charge of fleeing Alabama to avoid completion of a seventy-five-year sentence in the Scottsboro case of 1931.

Fri. 7-14-50

District Judge Arthur F. Lederle freed Patterson when advised by Assistant United States District Attorney James Soltesz that the District Attorney at Montgomery, Ala., did not wish to prosecute Patterson there.

27 e (2)

Governor G. Mennen Williams of Michigan refused to honor an Alabama extradition warrant for Patterson yesterday. In taking this action, he said: "All of the others involved in the Scottsboro case

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Scottsboro Figure May Go Free Today

Herald-Tribune

U. S. Set to Ask Dismissal of Fugitive Charges

DETROIT, July 12 (UP).—Federal attorneys said today they will ask dismissal of fugitive charges against ""Scottsboro Boy" Haywood Patterson tomorrow if Federal authorities in Alabama still don't want him returned there.

Thurs. 7-13-50

"United States authorities in Alabama have told us they do not want Patterson, and we do not want him for anything here," said United States Attorney Edward T. Kane.

27 e (2)

Mr. Kane made his announcement after Michigan's Governor G. Mennen Williams announced he would not return Patterson to Alabama State Prison at Montgomery to complete a seventy-five-year rape sentence.

Patterson escaped from the prison in 1948 and since then has co-authored a book, "Scottsboro Boy." He and eight other Negroes were convicted on charges of raping two white women on a freight train near Scottsboro, Ala., in 1931.

New York, N.Y.

Mr. Kane said Patterson was arrested here after two years of freedom as a Federal fugitive to give Alabama "an oportunity to arrange his extradition from Michigan." Since United States authorities in Alabama apparently don't want him, Mr. Kane said, the government will seek dismissal of the fugitive charge at Patterson's extradition hearing in Detroit tomorrow.

Governor Williams explained his stand by saying, "I can see no justifiable reason for returning Patterson to prison after his fellow defendants have been released."

27e(2) 1950

Alabama - Scottsboro Case

Haywood Patterson

8064

8064

ALABAMA

Long Journey

Time

7-10-50

It took Haywood Patterson 17 years to get from Alabama to the North. His long trip began on a spring day in 1931, when he and eight companions were yanked off a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., accused of raping two white girls who turned out to be common tramps. It carried him past the shadow of the electric chair three times, through the highest courts of the land and deep into the hard, rotten heart of the Alabama penal system. But in July 1948, Haywood Patterson finally made it. He escaped from Alabama's Kilby prison, crossed the Mason-Dixon line and hid out, a fugitive, an almost forgotten speck on the national conscience—the eighth of the Scottsboro Boys to get out of jail.*

Unsparing Story. When the journey began, Patterson was a gawky Negro of 18, unable to write and barely able to read. When he escaped in 1948 he was a calloused and bitter 35, a veteran of years of prison brutality and evil, and possessed of the one-track eloquence of a man who had pondered his grievances for 17 years. He had also come to believe that his truest friends were the Communists, who had exploited the Scottsboro case for their own ends.

Patterson didn't keep his grievances and his precarious freedom to himself. He went to New York and teamed up with Earl Conrad, a white newspaperman who once worked on a Negro paper, and they turned out *Scottsboro Boy*, a raw, violent, unsparing book published last month. It was calculated to scrape old wounds and inflame Southern readers.

It was partly a story most of the U.S. dimly remembered—of the trial which sentenced eight of the Negroes to death for rape that probably never was committed, the subsequent court battles which saved their lives and generally opened Southern juries to the Negro. The rest was a gamy tale of Patterson's life in Alabama's Atmore and Kilby prisons. He told of intrigues, knifings, murders, fornications and homosexual acts in prison, and Patterson freely named guards and officials to whom he attributed cruel neglect and brutality.

He also made it clear that he was a pretty tough prisoner to deal with. Patterson particularly invited trouble when he aimed some derogatory remarks at Frank Boswell, the man who is Alabama's Director of Corrections and Institutions.

FBI at the Bus. With a $2,700 advance for his book from Doubleday, his publishers, Patterson traveled about the North, even made an audacious trip down to North Carolina to visit a girl friend. Last week in Detroit, where he was living with a sister and working as a laborer for $1.80 an hour, he was surrounded by four FBI agents as he stepped off a bus. They had arrested him at Alabama's request; it is a federal offense for fugitives to cross state lines to avoid imprisonment.

Sitting in jail with his suspenders loose and his eyes glinting with bitterness, Patterson said hopefully that he couldn't believe Michigan would send him back to Alabama. "Alabama is the rottenest place in the world," said he. "They make criminals there . . . Hell, they [want] to kill me." The Communist-line Civil Rights Congress put up $5,000 to get him out on bail. But unless he can fight extradition, he will be sent back to Alabama, which figures that Haywood Patterson still owes the state 57 years of his life.

Michigan *Chronicle*

SCOTTSBORO BOY PATTERSON
Back to Alabama?

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* Alabama freed four of the nine in 1937; three others are on parole and another is now wanted for violating his parole.

SECOND PAROLE FOR WRIGHT

Last Defendant Freed In Scottsboro Case

27e(2) Ala—

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 6—(AP)—Andy Wright, last of the famed "Scottsboro case" defendants still in prison, was ordered released Tuesday by the State Pardon-Parole Board.

The 38-year-old Negro was given his freedom after a brief hearing during which he told the board he hoped to stay out of trouble in the future "and I believe I can make a go of it."

Under the conditions of his parole, Wright will work as a porter in a hospital somewhere in New York State, but board members declined to name the city. He will leave Kilby Prison here Friday.

It is the second parole for Wright, one of nine Negroes originally charged with raping two white women on a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931.

After six years of litigation, which attracted international attention, four of the Negroes went free, four were given prison terms for rape and the ninth, Ozie Powell, got 20 years for attacking a deputy sheriff.

Eight of the Negroes were sentenced to death in the first trial, but the verdicts were reversed.

Wright, who got 99 years for rape, was paroled in 1944 after serving seven years of his term, but the parole was revoked in 1947 after the Negro was convicted of reckless driving and driving without a license.

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
6-7-50

Last Prisoner In 'Scottsboro' Case Is Freed

27e(2)

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 10—(AP) — The last of the "Scottsboro Boys" to leave prison took his wife and child and headed away from the South Saturday.

Andy Wright was one of nine Negroes accused of raping two white women on a freight train in 1931. Their trial at Scottsboro was a sensation of the '30s.

The tall, 38-year-old Negro left prison Friday with $13.45 "go free" money in his pocket, and forgiveness in his heart. He said he was going to Albany, N. Y., to take a job as a hospital porter.

"I've got no hard feelings toward anyone," he told newspaper men who gave him a ride to the railroad station.

"I'm not mad beacuse the white girl lied about me. If she's still living, I feel sorry for her because I don't guess she sleeps much at night."

Wright and eight other Negroes were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931. They were charged with the rape of Mrs. Victoria Price and Ruby Bates.

The Bates girl repudiated her testimony she had been raped. The rape story was a "frame up," she said. Eight of the nine were convicted and sentenced to death at the first trial, but the verdict was reversed.

Wright was given a parole in 1944 after serving seven years.

News
June 11-50
Birmingham
Ala.

Scottsboro Case Negro Up For Parole Today

Advertiser

Andy Wright, one of the nine defendants in the "Scottsboro case" of the 30's will have another hearing before the State Pardon-Parole Board here today.

Wright is one of nine Negroes charged with raping two white women on a train in North Alabama 19 years ago. He was convicted and sentenced to 99 years.

After serving seven years of his sentence, Wright was paroled in 1944 but was returned to prison to finish his term in 1947 after being convicted of driving without a license and reckless driving.

The board will consider Wright's case today to see if he is eligible for another parole.

June 6-6-50
Montgomery
Ala.
27e(2) Ala

Last of Scottsboro Boys Free

Andy Wright, last of the nine Scottsboro boys, gets his $13.45 "go free" pay at Alabama's Kilby prison. Prison Clerk Tennyson Dennis gives him a parting word. Wright will work as a porter in an Albany, N.Y., hospital.

27e(2) Ala—

Afro American
Sat. 6-24-50
Baltimore, Md.

The End Of An Episode

7C(2)

More than 19 years have passed since the beginning of the Scottsboro case. At the first there were nine Negroes in jail charged with assault upon two white women. The last of those nine Negroes has now been released from Kilby Prison. For the first time since March, 1931, there is no "Scottsboro [illegible] in an Alabama jail or prison.

Andrew Wright, the [illegible] in prison, has been granted a parole, his fourth. This time the New York State Parole Board has assumed responsibility for Wright, to see that he does not become again a parole violator. Wright has promised to remove himself and his family out of the South.

We have probably not wr[illegible] in the matter. One of the defendants, Haywood Patterson, escaped from Kilby in 1948 and is still a fugitive from justice. He recently published an account of life in Alabama prisons.

Alabamians can now hope that time will mitigate, in ourselves and in others, the effects of an instance in which, many Alabamians believe, justice was handicapped by prejudice and foes of democracy were given a cause celebre to use to our hurt.

'Scottsboro Boy' Out On Parole

Post-Herald
Sat. 6-10-50

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 9 (AP) — Slender, mild-mannered Andy Wright, last of the "Scottsboro boys" still in prison, left on parole today with "no hard feelings" toward anyone who helped convict him.

Birmingham

The 38-year-old Negro, who spent nearly half his life behind prison bars, said he was going to Albany, N. Y., to take a job as porter in a hospital.

Scottsboro Case Negro Captured

Advertiser

Haywood Patterson, once sentenced to death in the world-famed "Scottsboro case" of 19 years ago, was captured in Detroit Tuesday, nearly two years after he fled from Kilby Prison.

A removal hearing was scheduled Tuesday afternoon at Detroit. If Patterson is returned to Alabama, he must resume serving his 75-year prison sentence for rape.

7C(2)

The Negro's arrest was announced by John K. Mumford, agent in charge of the FBI field office in Mobile. Mumford said FBI men picked him up on a fugitive warrant charging unlawful flight to avoid confinement.

Patterson and eight other Negroes were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala., on March 25, 1931, and charged with raping two white women on a freight train.

In Detroit, U. S. District Judge Arthur F. Lederle held Patterson under $10,000 bond pending a removal hearing July 13. Harry T. O'Connor, agent in charge of the Detroit FBI office, said the FBI had been looking for Patterson in the motor city for some time.

27e(2) 1950 Alabama -(Scottsboro Case) Arrest of Haywood Patterson
Detroit, Michigan

8066

Haywood Patterson In Trouble Again

27e(2) Adv

DETROIT, Mich. — (SNS) — The Civil Rights Congress launched a campaign Wednesday to secure the release of "Scottsboro Boy" Haywood Patterson who was arrested Tuesday by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Patterson's arrest may send him back to the Alabama prison he escaped two years ago. He recently wrote the searching book, "The Scottsboro Boy."

The last of the nine Scottsboro boys convicted of the alleged rape of two white women was arrested Tuesday at the home of his sister in Detroit. He had been living at his sister's home for three weeks.

The Civil Rights Congress demanded the immediate release of Patterson and said that "every resource of our organization will be brought into this fight to assure that he will not be returned to Alabama, and instead he will be granted a full pardon." The CRC continued:

"The arrest exposes to the whole world that the Truman administration and the Justice department are agents for carrying out Southern Jim Crow injustices."

Patterson had mysteriously disappeared after his escape from Alabama. A New York publishing firm published earlier this month his book, "The Scottsboro Boy," which was a scathing denunciation of the Alabama penal system. When the book was published, the publishers claimed that he was living unrecognized in "a Northern city."

The 30-year-old fugitive told F. B. I. agents that he had been living in New York before he took a job in Detroit which the Civil Rights Congress had secured for him.

Patterson is being held on a $10,000 bond pending a hearing July 13 on his removal to a Montgomery, Ala., prison. In July, 1948, he escaped from an Alabama prison while serving a 75-year sentence.

6-29-50

The "Scottsboro case" went to the U. S. Supreme court three times and became an international issue. Charges against four of the men were eventually dropped.

Scottsboro Rapist Arrested by FBI

Constitution

MOBILE, Ala., June 27—(AP)—The FBI Tuesday announced the arrest in Detroit of Haywood Patterson, one of nine Negro defendants in the famed Scottsboro case.

John K. Mumford, agent in charge of the Mobile FBI field office, said Patterson was picked up by FBI agents there on a fugitive warrant. He was charged with unlawful flight to avoid confinement.

Wed. 6-28-50

Patterson escaped from Kilby Prison near Montgomery July 20, 1948, while serving a 75-year sentence for rape.

Last Negro In Scottsboro Rape Case Is Freed

27e(2)

DETROIT — (AP) — The last of the nine Negro defendants on the Scottsboro (Ala.) rape case of two [illegible] will be given his freedom today.

The government decided to ask dismissal of a fugitive charge against Haywood Patterson, 38. A hearing on the charge was scheduled before U. S. District Judge Arthur F. Lederle.

Assistant U. S. District Attorney James S. Soltes said Alabama authorities told him they would drop proceedings against Patterson in view of Gov. G. Mennen Williams' refusal to allow extradition.

The FBI had picked up Patterson here on a charge of fleeing Alabama to avoid imprisonment.

Gov. Williams, in refusing extradition yesterday, said "all of the others involved in the Scottsboro case were released from prison some years ago." He added "I can see no justifiable reason for returning Patterson to prison."

Patterson and eight other Negroes were arrested aboard a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., in 1931 on charges of raping two white women. One woman later repudiated her story. The United States Supreme Court twice reversed the death sentence given Patterson and affirmed a 75-year term.

7-13-50

Let Him Go

It is with Prison Director Frank Boswell whether Haywood Patterson, the well known convict and author, will be returned to an Alabama prison from Michigan. We say Hon. Boswell has enormous good reasons for leaving the Negro fugitive to heaven.

For a decade The Advertiser has wished to see Patterson out and in any one of the Forty-eight save Alabama. "Throw away this body of death" has, and is, our contention. As nearly as possible let us purge ourselves of the shame of the case.

Sun. 7-2-50

Patterson escaped Kilby Prison two years ago and while a fugitive in the North, wrote the book "Scottsboro Boy." Recently he was apprehended by the FBI in Detroit and now the question of extradition to Alabama to finish the sentence is in Boswell's hands.

After 19 years, Alabama has had enough of this man, whose guilt is quite doubtful.

Montgomery Ala.

By his own written account and according to his own prison record—which prevented his parole more than once—Patterson is a very dangerous man and a self-confessed homosexual. Only trouble could attend his return to prison.

If he should die in an Alabama prison of cancer of the pancreas, the rest of the country would be certain that he died of a head blow inflicted by one of the prison guards he wrote about. If he were stricken by sun-stroke, the Civil Rights Congress would convince all within sound of the Moscow radio that he had been lashed into unconsciousness. No matter what befell Patterson in prison—and his self-proclaimed trouble-making instinct would insure that something did befall him—it would be twisted into a vengeful act of violence against him by prison officials (we'd be a trifle suspicious ourselves).

Therefore, leave him to Michigan and the sponsorship of the Civil Rights Congress. It may almost be assumed that such a troublesome one as Patterson would quite soon be back in some other state's prison. Let him be somebody else's Scottsboro boy.

However, we would make this reservation. As a matter of form and prison morale, it might be better to extradite him back to Alabama in order to purge his name from the prison rolls. That would make it clear that Alabama acted on its own to throw away the Scottsboro body of death.

State takes no action to obtain extradition of 'Scottsboro boy'

27e(2)
News

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 4—Will Haywood Patterson, probably the best known of the widely publicized Scottsboro Negroes, be brought back to Alabama to finish serving a 75-year penitentiary sentence?

The 33-year-old Negro, who was convicted of rape, was arrested at Detroit last week.

An arrest warrant was issued after Patterson escaped from Kilby Prison two years ago. But Alabama authorities have made no move to get him back.

Tues. 7-4-50

NEITHER GOV. FOLSOM nor Prison Director Frank Boswell will say when or if extradition papers will be issued asking the Negro's release by Michigan authorities.

Meantime, U. S. District Judge Arthur F. Lederle has set a removal hearing for Patterson on July 13.

Birmingham Ala.

Patterson had served 12 years of his sentence when he escaped. He is listed as author of "Scottsboro Boy," which is heading for the best seller's list. It makes scathing criticism of Alabama's prison system.

Andy Wright, last of the Scottsboro Negroes released, was given a parole last month. The others are on parole. One of these—Clarence Norris — has been declared delinquent, but hasn't been taken into custody.

While in prison, Patterson created a discipline problem. In 1947, when he was ordered flogged for knifing another Negro convict, Boswell described Patterson as a "mean convict" to handle. He said the Negro's record showed 12 instances of prison rules violations.

Alabama Wants Him Back

Scottsboro Boy Faces D-Day

Courier

Date 7-8-50

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N-!

DETROIT—Haywood Patterson, "Scottsboro Boy" who was arrested by the FBI here for return to an Alabama jail, has been released on $5,000 bail posted by the Bail Fund of the Civil Rights Congress.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

DETROIT—Thursday, July 13, is "D-Day" for "the last of the 'Scottsboro Boys,'" Haywood Patterson, captured here June 27 by the FBI. On that date he will know whether or not he must go back to Alabama to serve out a commuted seventy-five-year prison term. He escaped from a Montgomery, Ala. prison farm July 17, 1948.

27 e (2)

While the 37-year-old tall, well-built Patterson is waiting for that date to roll around for the hearing before Federal Judge Arthur F. Lederle to decide whether Alabama will get him back, the Civil Rights Congress moved into the picture in full blast.

FIGHTING EXTRADITION

William L. Patterson, executive secretary of the CRC, whose predecessor was the International Labor Defense, urged CRC members and groups all over the nation to flood Michigan's Governor G. Mennen Williams with wires and letters urging him to turn down the Alabama request for extradition.

Just a month ago, the Alabama Pardons and Paroles Board freed Andy Wright, the only one of the nine "Scottsboro Boys" left in prison. The nine boys had been sentenced for allegedly raping two white girls hoboing a freight train near Decatur, Ala., in 1931.

HAYWOOD PATTERSON

"... Alabama is hell"

"I have done no wrong, and I don't want to go back to that hell," said Patterson to a Courier reporter here, when interviewed after his arrest. He told The Courier that he had planned to give himself up, but not in Detroit, preferring New York or Chicago where he said he had sympathetic friends.

Courier

$4,700 FROM BOOK

Patterson is the only one of the "Scottsboro Boys" not released on parole. A few weeks ago he had collaborated with writer Earl Conrad on a book, "Scottsboro Boy," which created a bitter reaction in Alabama and aroused the ire of the whites of that state. Patterson said he had received about $4,700 royalties from that book, and had been living comfortably here while working on a construction job.

Date 7-8-50

FBI agents had been on his trail for several weeks, Patterson told The Courier, remarking that he had observed them watching him at various times.

CHANGED HER STORY

The "Scottsboro case aroused a nationwide sensation when it broke in 1931, and one of the women allegedly raped, Ruby Bates, later changed her story and denied that she had been assaulted by the boys. She then went on a tour of the nation seeking aid to help secure their freedom.

Trial of the case produced more sensations and created a bitter feud between the NAACP and the ILD, one which still rankles officials of both organizations.

Judge Lederle set Patterson's bond at $10,000 pending the July 13 hearing.

Patterson Out On Bail, But Faces Arrest

Amsterdam News

DETROIT— Haywood Patterson, famed member of the nine Scottsboro Boys, arrested here Tuesday by the FBI using a rarely employed law, was released on $5,000 bond Friday noon. Federal Judge Frank A. Picard ordered the original $10,000 bond cut in half and the Civil Rights Congress' Bail Fund provided the amount to set Patterson free, at least until his July 13 hearing.

Date 7-8-50

At the time the original bail was set, Federal Judge Arthur F. Lederle was indignant at the FBI's arrest of Patterson without a warrant from the State of Alabama. The warrant under which he was arrested was issued from the FBI office in Alabama to the FBI office in Detroit, under a law passed during the prohibition era for the apprehension of liquor smugglers.

The State warrant is now reported on its way to Detroit, opening the way for state extradition if Governor G. Mennan Williams of Michigan, grants the request from Alabama's Governor James Folsom.

Date 7-8-50

Still In Danger

Patterson's counsel, CRC attorney Ernest Goodman, believes the mistake made by the FBI in not clearing their warrant through Atty. Gen. J. Howard McGrath, might clear Patterson on the Federal charge. However, he is still in danger of extradition by the state.

27 e (2)

Patterson, who escaped from an Alabama prison in 1948 after serving 17 years of his 75 year sentence, had been living in many other cities before he came here to visit members of his family. In Wayne County jail, where he was kept until Friday, he complained bitterly about the probability of being returned South.

Ala

Talking with CRC Executive Secretary William L. Patterson, he said he believed his recently published book, "Scottsboro Boy," written in collaboration with Earl Conrad, was responsible for the action taken by Alabama. He cited that he had lived in New York and Chicago, and has friends on the police forces of both cities, and yet was not molested until now.

Issues Call

William Patterson, who came here to submit the bond, and accompany Haywood from jail, issued an immediate call to all Michigan groups to urge Gov. Williams not to grant extradition. He remarked that since Williams is running for election this year, considerable pressure can be exerted upon him to deny the return of Patterson to Alabama.

Patterson himself said he was anxious for a showdown fight on the issue. "I'm convinced that the people will help me win my freedom," he said.

He is the last of the nine to be imprisoned. Andy Wright was paroled early this month and is now working in upstate New York.

Courier-Journal

27 e (2)

Ala

Fri. 7-14-50

Louisville, Ky

Associated Press Wirephoto

SCOTTSBORO-CASE DEFENDANT, Haywood Patterson, left, was freed by a federal judge in Detroit yesterday of a charge he fled Alabama to avoid completing 75-year sentence imposed in trial in 1931. Shaking hands with Patterson is Ernest Goodman, of the Civil Rights Congress.

27e(2) 1950

Arkansas

8067

RAPES WOMAN, 78, SENTENCED TO LIFE

[illegible]

PINE BLUFF, Ark. — Willie Lee (Sonny) Branchen, 22, last week was sentenced to life imprisonment for the alleged rape of Mrs. Ella Miller, 78, last October.

Mrs. Miller told the court that Branchen attacked her at her home when he came there on pretense of visiting her son.

27e(2)

Rape Case Goes To Arkansas Supreme Court

State Press

The Arkansas Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the Herman Maxwell rape case upon reconvening Monday, when L. Clifford Davis and W. Harold Flowers appeared seeking a reversal of the judgment of the Hempstead County Circuit Court, which found Maxwell guilty of the rape of a young white matron and sentenced him to die in the electric chair.

Maxwell is now confined in the death house at Tucker State Prison Farm.

Maxwell contends that a motion filed to quash the panel of petit jurors should have been granted by lower court.

Maxwell was first convicted in August, 1949, and on appeal prosecuted by the law firm Flowers, Flowers & Davis, the Supreme Court reversed the decision of the lower court and remanded the matter for trial. On April 19 Maxwell was again convicted by an all white jury.

Dec 1-6-50

Little Rock Ark

27e(2)

Ark

27e(2) 1950 California

D068

CAR SALESMAN SEIZED; ADMITS RAPING GIRL, 12

[illegible]

Stockton, Cal., April 3 (AP)—William Leicher, 22, a used car salesman was held today as the confessed rapist of Esther Lobato, 12. "I must have been crazy; I don't know why I did it," Leicher was quoted by Sherif Carlos Sousa, who said charges of kidnaping and rape would be filed.

Tues 4-4-50
27e(2)

Sousa and Brad Crittenden, assistant district attorney, said the confession and the girl's account related:

Chicago Def.

Esther and her brother, Ray, 7, were walking home from a movie Friday night. Leicher grabbed the girl and forced her into his car. "She kept screaming and I got scared so I knocked her out," said Leicher. He drove 18 miles north of town, raped her, and left her dazed beside a road. Given a description by the girl, officers arrested Leicher, who is married.

Jury Convicts Soldier in Rape Slaying of WAF

Daily News

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — An all-male federal jury convicted Sgt. Lyle Buswell of the rape slaying of attractive WAF Sgt. Fairy Decker, 44, but recommended that he be spared from the death penalty.

The verdict, after more than six hours deliberation Thursday night left some doubt whether the burly Rutland, Vt., soldier would escape death in the San Quentin penitentiary gas chamber.

Federal Judge Louis Goodman said he was puzzled at the wording of the verdict. After the jury was excused he expressed doubt as to the validity of the recommendations.

Fri. 6-2-50

Specifically the jurors found the 33-year-old airman guilty of second degree murder, murder committed during rape, and rape. To the last two, the jurors added the phrase "without capital punishment."

The penalty for rape on a military reservation is death unless the government stipulates to a lesser punishment. The government had asked for the death penalty.

27e(2)

Buswell showed no emotion as the verdicts were read finding him guilty on each count, but as he was being led from the court room he was heard telling his attorney, James E. Burns:

"Well, you did everything you could."

Jackson, Miss.

Buswell admitted choking the woman to death at the Hamilton Air Base 25 miles north of San Francisco on March 25. But he steadfastly denied raping her. He said she submitted voluntarily and that afterwards she laughed at him and he choked her on an "impulse."

At the time, he testified, he had been on a "big drunk" because he had been ordered overseas.

Testimony Complete in Rape-Slaying

Post-Herald
Thurs. 6-1-50

SAN FRANCISCO, May 31 (UP)—Testimony was completed today in the murder trial of Sgt. Lyle H. Buswell, 33, Vermont farm boy, accused of the rape-slaying of an attractive WAF sergeant.

27e(2)
Calif

The case is expected to go to the jury tomorrow.

Buswell was arrested March 25 after the violated body of Sgt. Fairy E. Decker, 44, was found behind a barracks at nearby Hamilton Field.

Birmingham, Ala.

Buswell testified that he choked the woman "on impulse" after he had been intimate with her in an automobile. He said he abandoned her body when she failed to revive.

27e(2) 1950 D.C.

8069

8069

Tatum to Be Executed May 5 For Rape of 9-Year-Old Girl

27e(2)

Post [illegible]

Washington

Ernest Tatum, 27-year-old laborer, was sentenced yesterday in District Court to die May 5 in the electric chair for rapiding a 9-year-old girl.

Judge Alexander Holtzoff set the date for execution, stating that the death sentence was mandatory since it was recommended by the jury which convicted Tatum.

The victim was brutally assaulted last July near 2d st. and Florida ave. ne. She required two blood transfusions and 22 stitches, doctors reported.

Defense Attorney George E. C. Hayes argued that the death penalty was improper on basis of Tatum's testimony that he could recall nothing of the evening of the crime and felt he had been "drugged."

Caleb Mack South, 67-year-old barber, received 3 years 4 months to 10 years in prison for taking indecent liberties with four small children, ages 6 to 8 years. The sentence was the maximum penalty for the offense.

Judge Holtzoff commented that South had a record dating back to 1932 for similar offienses.

Hassell R. Poindexter, 20, of the Congress Hotel, who police charged was the "stickup man" in six robberies, was given 3 to 15 years in prison by Judge James W. Morris.

Robert A. Sisson, 43, formerly of 30 Rhode Island ave. ne., received a two to six year sentence for embezzling $38,000, according to charges, from the Logan Motor Co. in 1945, while he was employed there.

Three women named Betty Collins, 24; Jean S. English, 33, and Mildred Stevens, 34, were sentenced for performing indecent acts on themselves last year. The Collins and the Stevens women received 15 months to 45 months each, while Mrs. English received two to six years in prison.

In narcotics cases, William Coates, 49, of 1031 10th st. nw., received two to six years in prison; Spurgeon Anderson of 1025 7th st. nw. received two to eight years, and Amanda D. Garnett, 1740 6th st. nw., received one to three years: Wilbur Hawkins, 29, of 350 K st. sw., and James Tillman, 40, of 16 E st. sw., one to three years each.

Richard B. McGuire, 29, of 4042 Fessenden st. nw., was sentenced to serve 6 to 18 months in prison for embezzling letters from the mails while he was a postoffice clerk.

Alexandria Square Dance

The Tull-Deeton Unit, Marine Corps League Auxiliary, will sponsor a square dance at the Alexandrian Room, 1625 Prince st., Alexandria, today from 9 p. m. to midnight.

10 to 30 Years

Post

27e

Dat. [illegible]

Washington

In another District Court sentence, Hugh G. Mincey, 33-year-old ironworker, was sentenced to serve from 10 to 30 years in prison for raping a 4-year-old girl, whose body was torn and bruised by the attack.

Judge T. Alan Goldsborough said:

"The child was terribly abused. The jury did not impose the death penalty. There is nothing for the court to do but impose the maximum sentence under the law."

Mincey, father of four children, denied the rape. He said that he merely spanked the child after she walked into a lavatory where he was seated and cursed him.

Miss Laura J. Monroe, 23, received from one to five years for participating in two pocketbook snatchings.

Russel L. Broadus, 36, received from 3 to 10 years for housebreakings and larceny of more than $1000 in jewelry, personal effects and money.

Rape of Sister Brings Caddy 13-40 Years

Post [illegible]

Washington

27e(2)

Raymond V. Johnson, 21, a caddy, was sentenced yesterday in District Court to serve from 13 to 40 years in prison for raping and robbing his 25-year-old sister at knifepoint.

In imposing sentence, the maximum for the two offenses, Judge Alexander Holtzoff said:

"It is hard to imagine a civilized person committing this crime. You could very easily have gone to the electric chair for it, had the jury recommended death in its verdict."

Robinson was convicted of committing the incestuous rape after he pleaded guilty to robbing the sister, Mrs. Wilhelmina Robinson, 3232 13th st. nw., of money and clothing.

Robinson was represented by court-appointed attorney Charles E. Ford in the case. Ford was commended by the judge for his defense.

In another case, William J. Thomas, 20, address listed as 522 Hayes st. nw., was sentenced to serve from three to 10 years for two burglaries here.

Spencer McGruder, 24, of 1433 W st. nw., received three to nine years by Judge Jennings Bailey for three pocketbook robberies.

Thomas E. Millard, 23, of 28 O st. nw., got 20 months to five years prison for a robbery.

8070

GI Convicted For Rape Despite His Claim Girl Danced For Him In Nude

Daily News

Wed. 9-6-50 Jackson, Miss.

WARRINGTON, England — AP) — An American soldier was sentenced to 30 years today on a charge that he stripped a young English chorus girl and criminally assaulted her aboard a speeding train.

27e(2)

The defendant, Corp. Robert R. Jones, Wartburg, Tenn., also was sentenced by an army courtmartial to a dishonorable discharge. The findings are subject to review in Washington, D. C. Europe

Miss Mavis Holland, the 16-year-old showgirl, said Jones entered the train compartment where she was sitting alone soon after the train left Liverpool on June 15.

She said she accepted a cigarette and a stick of chewing gum from him. After a while, the girl testified, the 22-year-old medical corpsman removed the light bulb in the compartment, pulled her on to his knee and took off all her clothes except her shoes.

Miss H[illegible] said Jones held her [illegible] minutes. Whenever [illegible] at a station [illegible] he put his arm over her mouth to keep her quiet.

She said Jones jumped off the train at Padgate Station, near here, taking her dress, slip, panties and brassiere with him. Miss Holland followed, clad only in her coat, and called a policeman.

Jones, who denied he used force on the girl, claimed she removed her clothing and danced for him in the nude. His lawyer told the court "the girl wanted picking up and she got picked up."

Jones was stationed with the 59th Medical Group at nearby Burtonwood Air Field, a maintenance depot for the U. S. Air Force.

Tennessee GI Gets 30 Years In Train Rape

Fort Worth [illegible]

Fri 9-8-50

Denies He Assaulted British Chorus Girl

BURTONWOOD, England, Sept. 7 (U.P.)—A U. S. Army courtmartial yesterday sentenced a young Tennessee corporal to 30 years at hard labor for assaulting a 16-year-old English chorus girl aboard a train June 15.

27e(2)

Cpl. Robert R. Jones, 22, of Wartburg, Tenn., was found guilty of attacking Miss Mavis Holland, a dancer in a sideshow called "Beauty and the Beast." Europe

Jones, attached to the 59th Medical Depot here, told the following story at his trial:

He met Miss Holland at the entrance to the railroad station at Liverpool the night of June 15. She followed him into an empty first-class compartment, although she had only a third-class ticket.

Miss Holland accepted a cigaret and chewing gum from him, and did not object when he started "necking." She took off her skirt and did a dance for him. What happened after that, he said, occurred with her consent.

Miss Holland admitted accepting the gum and cigaret, but denied removing her skirt.

The procecutor pointed to Jones and said "there is the beast" who gave the girl "55 minutes of hell."

The defense said the girl had wanted to be picked up and pointed out that no scratches had been found on Jones to indicate any resistance on her part.

26

Fate of Two Negroes Accused of Rape Up to High Court

FLORIDA'S so-called "justice" for her Negro citizens was in the hands of legal dry cleaners last week, but whether they can do anything about it remains to be seen.

CIO

The State Supreme Court was weighing appeals from the death sentences meted out to two 22-year-old Negro war veterans, Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin, after their convictions on charges of raping Mrs. Norma Lee Padgett, a white farm wife.

At Ocala, a Federal Grand Jury heard evidence turned over by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in a six-month probe and found that the two defendants and Charles Greenlee, 15, were not deprived of their constitutional right to a fair trial. Greenlee had been sentenced to life imprisonment.

27e(2)

It was too late to do anything about Ernest Thomas, 27, another suspect, who was shot to death in the woods near Groveland where he and other Negro residents of the area had fled for safety from white mobs that burned and looted their homes and places of business.

THE APPEAL before the Supreme Court was handled by Alex Akerman, Jr., prominent Florida Republican leader, and Franklin Williams, New York, counsel for the Natl. Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The crux of their case was that the verdict was against the weight of the evidence, because defense witnesses whose testimony was uncontroverted proved the youths could not have been at the site of the alleged rape at the time it took place.

They also claimed the lower court should have granted a change of venue. Not only was the community inflamed against the defendants, they argued, but a mob had tried to lynch them in the same court house in which they were later tried at Tavares, and Negroes were systematically excluded from the trial jury.

The attorneys also accused Lake County officers of beating the three suspects to extort from them a "verbal confession" which was made much of in the community but which the prosecution never even mentioned during the trials.

As the court began consideration of the appeal, a series of articles in the St. Petersburg Times seriously questioned the guilt of the defendants. In an editorial the newspaper warned the court that "the whole democratic ideal" is on trial in the appeal.

THE DISORDERS attendant upon the asserted attack on Mrs. Padgett raged for three days before they were quieted by national guardsmen from Tampa. Williams, who tracked down the defendants after they had been hidden for "safe-keeping," was chased by an armed mob from Tavares to Orlando after the trial and barely escaped lynching. Ted Poston, New York Post reporter and a member of the CIO Newspaper Guild, likewise fled for his life. For his coverage of the trial and the events leading up to it Poston won the Guild's annual Haywood Broun Award.

After reading Poston's series, "Horror in Sunny Florida," U. S. Atty. Gen. Howard McGrath invited him to Washington for a conference. The order for the FBI investigation followed shortly.

The U. S. grand jury was made up of citizens of the area around Ocala, three of them Negroes.

It heard evidence, much of it dug up by Poston, that the three living defendants were beaten by arresting officers both inside and outside the court house.

EDITORIAL OF THE WEEK

THE PROSECUTOR FORGETS HIS CASE

The following editorial is reproduced in its entirety from the NEW YORK POST of April 20, 1950

It took a grand jury in Ocala, Florida, less than twenty-four hours to clear Florida law-enforcement officers accused of beating three Negro youths in that state's "Little Scottsboro Case." The grand jury's action is the least mysterious aspect of the news that another prosecution for violation of civil rights in Dixie has abruptly collapsed.

Black Dispatch

The man who must explain himself is U. S. Atty. Phillips, who presented the government's case against the local officials. Phillips was acting as the Justice Dept.'s representative on the scene. It would be an understatement to assert that he did not have hi heart in his work.

Sat. 4-29-50

As this newspaper reported yesterday, there were two key witnesses slated to support the testimony of the three youths that they had been savagely assaulted by local officers after they were picked up on the fake "rape" charge. The witnesses were a doctor and a dentist who examined the youths after the alleged beating.

Oklahoma City Okla

Phillips told them to appear at 2 p. m. Tuesday. When they arrived at the appointed time he had a surprise for them. It was all over. Their testimony would not be needed; the grand jury had already acted. It had exonerated the local officers, perpetuating an old Southern custom.

27E(2) Fla –

The fate of the three youths convicted of rape remains undecided. Two of them face death sentences which are now being appealed to the State Supreme Court. The influential St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times has courageously rallied to their defense, exposing great gaps in the prosecution's case. The articles independently confirm many of the disclosures first reported by Ted Poston in this newspaper. The fight for vindication of the boys continues.

But the local police officers who mishandled them after the arrest need not worry any longer. They had a pleasant day in court, with the aid of "Prosecutor" Phillips.

This isn't the first time that the conduct of U. S. Attorneys in civil rights prosecutions in the South has been challenged. The attorneys are chosen from the region in which they are to operate; the reluctance of many of them to combat local prejudice is notorious. It was viewed with grave concern by President Truman's Commission on Civil Rights in the report it released in October, 1947. The report recommended establishment of regional offices of the Civil Rights section of the Justice Dept. to lessen that unit's "complete dependence upon U. S. Attorneys and local FBI agents for its work in the field." The recommendation was pigeonholed; the consequences are again apparent.

Following this newspaper's disclosures of Phillips' weird performance at Ocala, Atty. Gen. McGrath has pledged a complete investigation of the handling of the case. "I'll let no one compromise me or the Department of Justice in any case involving violations of civil rights," he declares. These are fighting words, and we applaud them: we hope they foreshadow equally fiery action.

Florida Rules Rapists To Die

27e(2)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—(AP)—The Florida Supreme Court yesterday upheld the death sentences of two Negroes convicted for the rape of a young white woman in Lake County last Summer.

Constitution

In a unanimous decision, the court said Walter Irvin and Samuel Shepherd must die in the electric chair for their crime. A third Negro, Charles Greenlee, was sentenced to life imprisonment for his part in the crime.

Atlanta Ga

Ernest Thomas, who the 'teenage mother said also assaulted her on a lonely road near Groveland, was shot to death by a posse.

NAACP Fights Florida Case

Courier

27e(2)

TALLAHASSEE — Attorneys for the NAACP have filed a petition asking the Supreme Court of Florida to rehear the case of two of the three Groveland youths convicted on a rape charge last September, and to reconsider the affirmance of this conviction.

Sat. 6-10-50

Pittsburgh, Pa

The NAACP asked the highest court of the state to make an independent examination of the record and to reach its own conclusion as to the circumstances surrounding the trial of Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin, who were sentenced to die.

Attorneys handling the case for the NAACP are Alex Akerman Jr., of Winter Park, Fla., and Assistant Special Counsel Franklin H. Williams of the national office.

NAACP To Make Appeal For Victims

Defender

Dat-12-9-50

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Supreme Court agreed Monday to review the death sentences of Samuel Shepard and Walter Irvin, convicted for the alleged rape of a 17-year-old white girl near Groveland, Fla., in July, 1949.

Charged

The two men were tried and convicted in Groveland after the NAACP tried ~~unsuccessfully~~ to get a change of venue. The men were denied an appeal last June by the Florida supreme court.

Charles Greenlee, charged with the same crime, was given life imprisonment. The fourth suspect was shot and killed, following a siege of lawlessness and disorder in the colored community of Groveland, which required calling out the National Guard and the Army.

27e(2)

The appeal on behalf of Shepard and Irvin was filed by Thurgood Marshall, NAACP general counsel. He questioned: (1) the validity of trial by jury by racial proportion of registered voters; (2) hampering of preparation of defense counsel for Negroes; (3) denial of motion for change of venue due to mob action and adverse publicity.

Lt

8072

MAN CONVICTED OF RAPING NEGRO

BRONSON, FLA., June 2--Enoch Hilliard, 27 year old white man, was convicted Tuesday of raping a 16 year old Negro girl. Mercy was recommended by a 12 man, all-white Circuit Court jury. It could mean life imprisonment or any term Judge John A.H. Murphree decrees. The judge deferred sentence due to a motion for a new trial. The attack occurred last February.

Hilliard contended he was fishing with his brother-in-law at the time the State charged the rape took place.

Constitution
Wed. June 21, 1950
Atlanta, Ga.

Groveland Petition Turned Down

[illegible]

7-7-50

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.— (INS)—A petition for rehearing the case of three Negroes convicted of criminally assaulting a young Groveland white woman last year was turned down Wednesday by the Florida Supreme Court.

27e(2)

The court previously had affirmed a lower court's decision giving two of the Negroes the death sentence and the third, a life prison term.

Atlanta Ga.

The attack set off a wave of terrorism in the Groveland-Tavares Area shortly after it was reported.

The court did not write an opinion in turning down the petition.

Appeal To Supreme Court Planned

Florida Court Upholds Groveland Convictions

28

Journal and Guide

27e(2)

Norfolk Va.

5-27-50

NEW YORK—The United States Supreme Court will be asked to review the decision of the Florida Supreme Court upholding the convictions of Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin in the Groveland "rape" case, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced last week.

In an unanimous decision, handed down on May 16, the seven-man Florida court denied the six objections raised by NAACP counsel and affirmed the verdict of a special court which found Shepherd and Irvin, together with 16-year-old Charles Greenlee, guilty of criminal assault upon Mrs. Norma Lee Padgett, young white housewife.

Alex Akerman, Jr., of Orlando Fla., and Franklin H. Williams NAACP assistant special counsel represented the defendants in the trial and appeal.

* * *

THEY CONTENDED that the defendants had been denied a fair and impartial trial because of the court's refusal to grant a change of venue, the discriminatory methods of selecting the jury, refusal of the trial judge to permit the defendants to withdraw their plea the beating of the accused men by law enforcement officers, and the impossibility of the defendants committing the crime because of the time element.

The Florida Supreme Court rejected these contentions, holding that the trial court's ruling should not be set aside except upon a showing of an abuse of discretion.

The court further held that "the evidence adduced fails to establish an unconstitutional, intention and systematic discrimination by officials against the Negroes of Lake county in January, 1949, when selecting the names of persons for jury duty as authorized by the statute of Florida."

* * *

REFUSING TO REVERSE the trial court, the Supreme Court said in conclusion that the testimony reduced itself to the issue as to "which set of witnesses would the jury believe . . . Disputes and conflicts in the testimony are for jury."

The claims of a white woman that she had been raped by four Negroes near Groveland last summer set off a reign of terror in that area. One of the accused, Ernest Thomas, was killed by deputized mob. Three were convicted by an all-white jury last September. Shepherd and Irvin were given death sentences and Greenlee life imprisonment.

Death Sentences In Assault Case Upheld By Court

Post-Herald

Wed 5-17-50

Birmingham, Ala.

Florida Tribunal Refuses Reversal

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 16—(AP)—The death sentences of two young Negroes who raped a teen-age white mother in Central Florida last Summer were upheld by the State Supreme Court today.

In a unanimous decision, the court said it found no grounds for reversing convictions of Walter Irvin and Samuel Shepherd, both 22 years of age.

27e(2)

The crime, which occurred in rural Lake County last July, touched off a series of mob actions. Several Negro homes were burned and shot into by a roving mob of white persons.

Fla

Negroes Hidden

Sheriff Willis McCall hid the Negroes from the mob in his own home and later put them in the state prison at Raiford for safekeeping.

The National Guard finally was called out to restore order.

Charles Greenlee, a minor, also was convicted of the crime and was sentenced to life imprisonment. He did not appeal.

Earnest Thomas, the fourth Negro accused by the woman of raping her on a lonely road after her husband was beaten, was killed by a posse about 150 miles from the scene of the crime several days later.

Claims Told

Aided by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the defense claimed the Negroes did not get a fair trial in Lake County, the trial should have been transferred to another county, they did not have adequate time to prepare their case and Negroes were intentionally excluded from jury service in the county.

Writing the court's opinion, Justice Roy Chapman said:

"The inflamed public sentiment was against the crime with which the appellants were charged, rather than defendants' race."

Convict White Man Of Raping Negro Girl

27e(2)

BRONSON, Fla.—A 27-year-old white man, Enoch Hilliard, was convicted last Tuesday by an all-white jury of raping a [illegible]-year-old colored girl.

[illegible]

Mercy was recommended. The recommendation means that the jury wants a sentence of life imprisonment or less for the convicted rapist.

[illegible]

Judge John A. H. Murphree, who must pass sentence, said he will wait until a defense motion for a new trial is disposed of before he imposes a penalty on the white man.

Death Sentences In Assault Case Upheld By Court

Post-Herald

Wed 5-17-50

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Guilty Rapist Free On $5,000 Bond

Courier

27e(2)

7-15-50

BRONSON, Fla.—An all-white jury sitting in circuit here recently, despite having found Enoch Hilliard, 27, white, guilty of criminal attack on a 16-year-old colored girl, recommended mercy in the capital offense case. Pending a motion for a new trial he is freed on $5,000 bond.

27e(2) 1950 General

8074

8074

SEX-CRIME LAWS HELD INEFFECTIVE

27e(2)

New Jersey Commission Finds 'No Problems Resolved' in 12 States Studied

NY Times

General

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

TRENTON, Jan. 30—The New Jersey State Commission on the Habitual Sex Offender declared today that laws to curb sex crimes were completely ineffective in most of the twelve states that had passed such legislation.

"In general, the statutes appear to have served only the purpose of satisfying the public temporarily that 'something is being done,'" the seven-man commission told the State Legislature after a ten-month study. "Thus far no problems have been resolved by the new sex laws that have been enacted.

"On the contrary, some extremely dangerous precedents have been established:

"1. For adjudicating individuals without ordinary due process—even in five states without a criminal charge.

"2. For indeterminate commitments to mental hospitals of individuals who are not insane and who deviate little or not at all from normal psychologically.

"3. For providing hospital custody to a growing body of minor sex deviates who are to be held until 'cured' though without treatment, at great cost to the taxpayer and with serious diminution of the facilities available for those mental patients who are seriously disturbed."

Jan. 31, '50

1/31

"Fallacies" Are Cited

Belief that law can solve the sex problem was on of several "fallacies" cited by the commission in its voluminous report, prepared by Dr. Paul W. Tappan, Professor of Sociology at New York University, and approved by the commission members.

Among these "fallacies" were: that there are tens of thousands of homicidal sex fiends abroad in the land, that sex offenders are usually repeaters, that the sex offender progresses from lesser to more serious types of sex crimes, that these individuals are over-sexed, that it is possible to predict the danger of serious crimes being committed by sex deviates and that effective treatment methods to cure deviated sex offenders are known and employed.

The commission reported that the vast majority of sex deviates were minor offenders, most of whom never came to official attention; that sex offenders had one of the lowest rates as "repeaters" of all types of criminals and that the commitment of a sex deviate to a state mental institution did not imply clinical treatment.

In examining sex-offender laws in other states, the commission found that they were "completely nullified" in four areas, Vermont, California, Washington, D. C., and Florida; that they were "almost completely ineffective" in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesoat, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New Jersey, and that California apparently was the only state that had used its statute fairly extensively.

The failure of the laws, the commission said, seemed to be based on lack of resources to provide treatment and on failure of the police and prosecuting authorities to get at more than an insignificant proportion of the sex deviates who could be brought to examination under the terms of the laws.

Treatment and Protection

For better treatment of the sex offender and better protection of the community, the commission urged that a distinction be made between those whose conduct offended good taste and morals, such as homosexuals, exhibitionists, "peepers" and other minor deviates, and dangerous and aggressive offenders such as rapists, sadists, sex slayers and those who attacked young children.

If the present New Jersey law were enforced, the commission estimated, citing the Kinsey report, "a very large number of the male population" of the state might be prosecuted and committed to state institutions.

"We need to concentrate on the more dangerous criminals and cannot reasonably attempt to cure or detain the great masses of lesser offenders," the commission said. "The latter represent a numerical problem that is too large for effective treatment and a conduct problem too trivial to warrant unusual expenditures."

The group recommended that:

"Upon conviction for the crimes of rape, carnal abuse, impairing the morals of a minor, sodomy, or an attempt to commit any of these offenses, before sentence, the judge shall remand the defendant to the New Jersey Diagnostic Center at Menlo Park.

"If it be determined through clinical observance that the offender's conduct was characterized by (a) a pattern of repetitive compulsive behavior and (b) violence or (c) an age disparity between a victim (under the age of 15) and the adult defendant-aggressor, then it will be the duty of the court to submit the offender to a program of specialized treatment for his mental and physical aberrations."

Such treatment, the commission added, should include probation with out-patient visits or commitment to a specialized facility, a state mental hospital or a correctional institution, followed by parole.

The commission also outlined a program of prevention through the schools, churches and homes, and a proposal for voluntary self-commitment of sexual deviates.

Members of the commission are Joseph P. Murphy, chairman, chief probation officer of Essex County; State Senator Anthony J. Cafiero, Assemblyman Elden Mills; F. Lovell Bixby, deputy commissioner, State Department of Institutions and Agencies; Dr. J. B. Spradley, former medical director, Trenton State Hospital; Walter G. Winne, Bergen County prosecutor, and Sampson G. Smith, superintendent of schools, Somerset County.

'Owned' Murder Gun; Man Must Die

Defender
27e Ga

CARROLLTON, Ga.—Clarence Henderson has been sentenced to die in the electric chair for the murder of Buddy Stevens in 1948.

He was found guilty Tuesday by a jury that deliberated only an hour and 40 minutes, although a woman at the scene of the crime did not attempt to identify him.

He was sentenced despite a heart rending plea through tear filled eyes, in which he called many of the jurors by name and recalled past family relations.

The evidence against the 29-year-old father of two children is ownership of the murder weapon.

Henderson's only defense was his statement from the stand. Calling the jurors by name, he declared:

"The night of the murder I was home asleep in bed. That's all I —a wife and two sweet little kids."

Pointing his finger at Sheriff Denver Gaston, the bewildered defendant accused:

"You beat me when I was handcuffed. My Mama washed for your folks.

"They beat me and stomped me like a dog," he told the jury, then turning to the County Solicitor, Henderson said bitterly. "You was there too.

"I may die for this," he told the court, with tears welling in his eyes, "If I do, some day you'll know. I got something to live for understand I didn't have nothing to do with it."

Henderson said the Negroes who identified the gun as being like one belonging to him did so out of jealousy.

Four 'Own Gun'

The gun, sole evidence on which Henderson was convicted and sentenced by Judge Samuel J. Boykin, turned up last Nov. 21, in an Atlanta pawn shop. E. [illegible] Harkins, an Atlanta detective, located it there. The pawn broker, Leon Beber said he got it from Eli Cosper for $25.

27e(2)

Cosper and his wife said Cosper bought it from Lehman Almon, in 1948. Almon said he bought it from Henderson two weeks before Christmas in 1948, about two months after the killing of Stevens, a Georgia Tech student.

On the stand, the girl who was with Stevens the night he was slain, said a Negro forced them from a car at gun point, and made them go into a field. There he attempted to attack her she said, and when Stevens came to her defense, she fled. Later she heard three shots, the girl testified.

There were no other "witnesses." The girl did not attempt to identify Henderson. She broke down crying under cross examination, and was excused from the stand.

The verdict was handed down by an 11-man jury. When one juror was separated from the rest of the panel at lunch-time Superior Court Judge H. E. Nichols declared a mistrial.

However, the defense counsel, led by Georgia State Sen. Claude Pittman, withdrew its objections and the trial went on with only 11 jurors.

3d Suspect Freed in Rome Rape Case

~~Constitution~~

4-30-50

ROME—(AP)—The third member of a trio charged with rape and statutory rape of a 13-year-old Negro girl has been freed.

A Superior Court jury debated two and one-half hours Friday night before acquitting 20-year-old Louie Eugene Byars, of Rome. His two companions had been given prison terms of three to five years at their joint trial Tuesday.

Atlanta, Ga.

Jerald David Hicks, 24, of Dallas, and James Marion Elder, 26, of Rockmart, were convicted of assault with intent to rape, a lessser offense.

27e(2) Ga

The girl accused the men of ravishing her April 3 in the presence of two white women and two small white children.

One of the women, Geneva Davis, testified she saw Hicks and Elder force themselves on the girl. She said Byars had no part in the assault.

Sentence Ga. White For Assault on Girl

Courier

27e(2)

LOUISVILLE, Ga.—Attacking a Negro schoolgirl last December brought a five-to-ten-year prison sentence to Pete Coleman, a white prisoner. A trusty serving a life term for murder, Coleman beat the girl with a hammer on a lonely country road.

Ga

Two Found Guilty In Rome Attack

Daily World

Three-To-Five Year Sentences Meted By Jury

Atlanta, Ga.

27e(2) Ga

ROME, Ga.—(INS)—Two whte men were found guilty Tuesday night on charges that they assaulted a 13-year-old Negro girl in attempt to rape her while two white women and two small children looked on.

An all-white, all-male jury deliberated one hour and 55 minutes before convicting James Marion Elder, 26, of Rockmart, Ga., and Jerald Davis Hicks, 24, of Dallas, Ga. They were automatically sentenced to from three to five years in jail.

Tues.

The pair had been indicted on statutory rape charges which would have called for the death penalty. But, two doctors testified that the girl was not criminally assaulted last April 3, at a Reeses Spring picnic spot in North Rome as she went for a bucket of water.

The girl and one of the white women who said she witnessed the attack were the State's principal principal witnesses in the one-day trial.

The victim testified that the defendants and Louie Eugene Byars, 20 of Rome, raped her. Byars was slated to go on trial Wednesday on a statutory rape charge.

Geneva Davis, who said her two small children also witnessed the attack, declared that Hicks and Elder threw the girl to the ground. She added, however, that Byars had nothing to do with the assault.

The three men denied the charges. Their insistence that they did not touch the girl was corroborated by Byars' sister, Eula, who was also with the men when the Negro girl was assaulted.

'COVERING THE COURTS

HUSBAND OFFERS NO HELP TO WIFE; RAPE SUSPECT FREED

Daily World

27e(2) Ga

BY ROBERT E. JOHNSON

A Fulton Superior court trial jury yesterday freed Clifford Spencer, 73 Haynes Street, of a rape charge brought against him by a 36-year-old housewife apparently because the woman's husband didn't offer protection or notify police of the alleged abduction.

Arraignment of William Burch, 20, and Joseph Martin, 20, companion suspects under indictment in connection with the statutory assault charge, was put off until further notice.

Wed. 5-17-50

Spencer and the other men were charged with abducting the woman on April 9 at Magnolia and Haynes streets and driving her out to Maddox Park, where each allegedly assaulted her.

Atlanta, Ga.

Spencer won an acquittal verdict on four defense contentions:

1. He alleged the woman and her husband, Claude Ingram, of 135 Grave Street, N. W., were engaged in a quarrel when he met them at Magnolia and Haynes Streets.

2. He contended that the woman voluntarily got into his car.

3. Spencer's defense attorney argued that Ingram left the scene after his wife got in the car.

4. The defense attorney asserted that the husband didn't call police to make a complaint of the incident.

The woman testified that the trio took her for a ride out to the park and attacked her. She said she escaped by bolting out of the vehicle when the suspects stopped at a Bankhead Avenue filling station. She said she received protection from a white service station proprietor who called police authorities.

White Youths Bound Over On Rape Charges

Daily World

Tues. 6-13-50

Atlanta,

ROME—Judge T. E. Edwards has ordered two white youths here bound over to the Grand Jury on charges of raping a 17-year-old Negro girl.

Ga.

27e(2)

The two allegedly attacked the girl Wednesday night. Police Chief Smith Horton said that they were arrested shortly afterward.

The victim told Judge Edwards at a preliminary hearing that Robert Camp, 15, came to her home to get her to act as a baby sitter for Richard Patrick, 22.

Daily World

The girl testified that she refused to go with the Camp boy at first but later changed her mind. She said that her 15-year-old sister accompanied her in the Camp car, which was enroute to Patrick's home. The girl said that Patrick was hidden in the back seat of the car.

Tues. 6-13-50

The two girls denied that they knew Patrick was in the back of the car until Camp drove to a dark country road near Rome. There, the girls said they were threatened with death if they did not submit to the demands of the two white youths.

Atlanta

27e(2)

The 15-year-old boy, charged with rape and immoral liberties with children, was being held on a bond of $2700. Patrick was released Saturday on a $2500 bond. He was charged with rape.

DEATH VERDICT IN ATTACK CASE

(Constitution State News Service)

Homerville-Oct. 4- A 27-year-old Alma, Ga. Negro was sentenced Wednesday afternoon to die in the electric chair Nov. 5 for the rape of a young Homerville housewife. The Negro, Jimmie Cornelius Williams, was tried in Clinch County Superior Court, the jury returning the verdict of guilty in the case.

The Negro was transferred to Reidsville immediately following the trial.

Constitution
Thurs. 10-5-50
Atlanta, Ga.

COVERING THE COURTS

Two Men Plead Guilty To Rape

Guilty word

27E(2) Ga.

BY ROBERT E. JOHNSON

Two Atlanta men, arraigned in the criminal division of Fulton Superior court, yesterday pleaded guilty to separate charges of rape and were sentenced 3 to 5, and 5 to 10 years respectively.

Pleading guilty in the courtroom of Judge Jesse Wood was Claude Ellis, 67 years old, who pleaded guilty to an indictment alleging he raped a 75-year-old Atlanta woman.

Thurs. 10-19-50

The bill of indictment was put into the court proceedings by Charlie Hartsfield, 68 year old deputy clerk of Fulton Superior court.

In an arraignment before Fulton Judge Ralph H. Pharr, Emanuel White pleaded guilty to the August 3 criminal assault upon a Tazor street woman.

Ga.

He was sentenced to serve 5 to 10 years in the state penitentiary for the alleged crime.

Good Sense In Laurens

27E(2) Ga.

An all-white Laurens County jury, sitting in Dublin, Georgia Monday, acquitted 79-year-old Charlie Williams, Laurens County farmer, of assault with intent to rape a white woman within the brief space of 15 minutes deliberations.

Atlanta. Ga. word

The jury, after hearing the testimony of only two persons, the accused and the accuser, and after hearing the testimony and statements of defense attorney and Solicitor General W. W. Larsen, Jr. the jury deliberated only 15 minutes and returned a verdict of acquittal.

11-2-50

What a grave miscarriage of justice it would have been if the jury had chosen to listen to the false charges against this old man, having lived all these years an upright and honorable life, notwithstanding his humble origin and surroundings? And yet, who can say among us in the South today how many innocent Negroes who are in their graves because of testimony against them by people who have no sense of the seriousness of their charges against them? That's the sort of thing which in the past, has given the South a black eye in other portions of the Nation. Happily, the action by the Laurens County jury Monday will do much to correct that unfavorable impression.

COURTS, COUNTY

15-Year Term Given in Sex Attack Case

27E(2)

Ga.

By GORDON SAWYER

Daniel Duncan, 25-year-old Negro man, Thursday was sentenced to 15 to 20 years in prison for the Oct. 13 attempted rape of a 12-year-old Atlanta schoolgirl.

The jury found Duncan guilty after the victim, the daughter of an Atlanta policeman, said the Negro was definitely the man who attempted to assault her. The case was tried before Fulton Superior Court Judge Jesse M. Wood.

The girl testified the attack took place in a wooded area near her usual path to school.

Rape Conviction Gets 2 For Theft

A Fulton Superior court trial jury yesterday convicted an Atlanta man charged with rape and fixed his prison sentence at 1-4 years with a recommendation of mercy.

Arraigned before Judge Ralph Pharr, the defendant, Robert Hunt, was brought on trial for the alleged crime after he had ben jailed by Detectives J. A. Preston and H. C. Newton.

Dat. 9-30-50

Court records showed that J. P. Whittaker, registrar, Atlanta university and prominent Auburn avenue businessman, was struck from the jury selection by the defendant's attorney.

27E(2) Ga.

Hunt was accused of criminally assaulting a Hilliard Street woman on July 4.

27e(2) 1950 Georgia

8075

Crime Roundup—

Negro Who Commanded Attack On Girl Must Die

News

CARROLLTON, Ga., Jan. 31—(AP)—A Georgia jury last night convicted a Negro of murdering a college student who, his girl friend testified, refused the Negro's command to rape her.

Superior Court Judge Samuel Boykin sentenced the Negro, Clarence Henderson, 27, to die in the electric chair Feb. 24. Defense attorneys immediately filed appeals.

The companion of the slain student did not attempt to identify the Negro on trial.

Henderson said he was home asleep the night of the murder in October, 1948.

Then he cried to the jury, "I got something to live for—my wife and kids. I'm fighting for my life for something I never did. . .

"All these people are telling stories on me. They're trying to kill old Clarence. I ain't guilty. I may die some day, but you'll understand this black Nigger didn't have nothing to do with it.. . I ask for mercy. Let me raise my little kids."

* * *

EARLIER YESTERDAY, a small, pretty brunette, now married, told how her escort, Carl "Buddy" Stevens, Jr., Georgia Tech student, was killed.

She recounted her story in a quiet courtroom cleared of spectators. (Georgia law prohibits publication of the victim's name in such cases.)

She said she had known "Buddy" all her life and recalled the date they had the fatal night, when they parked on a dead end street to listen to a car radio.

CONTINUING HER story, she said:

A Negro came to the car and flashed a light in their eyes. She said he made them walk a short distance and lie down on the ground, then he took $15 from the 22-year-old Stevens' billfold.

He made them walk through a cotton patch then and commanded Stevens to rape her. She said Stevens refused, declaring, "I will die first."

The Negro hit Stevens on the head with a gun and ordered them to move on. Twice again he ordered the white youth to rape her and again beat Stevens.

When Stevens refused the third time, the Negro attempted to rape her himself. The student jumped at the man, allowing her to flee. As she ran, she heard three shots.

BEFORE THE girl took the stand, the prosecution presented circumstantial evidence in its effort to convince the jury.

The evidence centered on a pistol, which Sheriff Denver Gaston and other witnesses said had been traced to Henderson. An Atlanta ballistics expert, George T. Cornett, identified the gun as the death weapon.

Tues. 1-31-50

Birmingham

Ala.

27e (2)

Ga.

Henderson Denies Slaying Of Carl "Buddy" Stevens

CARROLLTON, Ga. — (INS) — The girl-companion of a Georgia Tech student slain in October, 1948, testified Monday at the trial of his alleged murderer that Carl "Buddy" Stevens was shot to death when he tried to protect her from rape.

The girl never identified Clarence Henderson as the Negro who attempted to attack her. But she gave a description of a harrowing evening on Oct. 31, 1948, which began as she sat in an automobile with Stevens.

She said a man shined a flashlight into Buddy's eyes and pointed a gun at him, ordering the couple into a swamp, where he beat and robbed Stevens. Then, according to the girl, the assailant forced the couple to lie down and tried to attack her.

She said that Stevens lunged at the man, knocking him away from her. She said she ran away after the attacker shot Buddy three times.

While testifying, the girl broke into tears, but soon regained her composure.

At the trial, Henderson claimed that he was home in bed the night of the slaying. He charged police with brutality and insisted that he was being "framed."

Worker

Tues. 1-31-50

Atlanta

27e (2)

Ga.

Bond Denied 2 Accused Of Rape

Memphis, Tenn

ROME, Ga. — Bail was denied Tuesday to two white men charged with the rape of a 13-year-old Negro girl. A white woman was ordered held for $1,000 bond as a material witness. The third white man is in Floyd County jail after waiving preliminary trial. Judge Edwards conducted the hearing Tuesday morning for James Marion Elder, 26, of Rockmart, and Jerald David Hicks, 24, of Dallas. Bond was refused in the capital offense crime. Material witness Geneva Davis called the police who made arrests near the alleged crime.

27e (2)

4-19-50

Deny Bail to Whites Charged With Rape

Courier 27e (2)

ROME, Ga.—A county judge last week denied bail to two white men charged with the rape of a 13-year-old Negro girl. A third white man, who could not secure a lawyer, remained in jail after waiving preliminary trial. A white woman companion was ordered held under $1,000 bond as a material witness.

Judge Edwards conducted the hearing for James Marion Elder, 26, of Rockmart, and Jerald David Hicks, 24, of Dallas. He refused to grant them bond in the capital offense case. Mrs. Geneva Davis, the material witness, called police to the scene of the crime near which the arrests were made.

Sat. 4-22-50

Pittsburgh Pa.

White Men Indicted For Rape of Girl

27e (2)

Ga.

ROME, Ga., April 17 — Three white men were indicted today on charges of raping a Negro girl when she went to a spring for a bucket of water.

Herald

A special Floyd county grand jury accused the men of raping the 13-year, old girl April 3 while their two white women companions watched. The girl told officers she was attacked after the men forced her to drink from a bottle of wine.

Thursday 4-20-50

The indictments were returned against James Marion Elder, 26, of Rockmart, Jerald David Hicks, 24, of Dallas, Ga., and Louie Eugene Byars, 20, of Rome.

Savannah Ga.

Solicitor W. T. Maddox indicated the men will be tried in Floyd Superior Court early next week.

The two white girls who witnessed the incident and ultimately called the police are Geneva Davis and Eula Byars, sister of one of the defendants.

All three defendants are in jail and have been refused bond. Miss Davis, unable to raise $1,000 bond, is being held in jail as a material witness, Miss Byars was released without bond, but ordered to appear as a witness.

Officers said Miss Davis signed a statement detailing the events of April 3. In her statement, Miss Davis said all three men forced themselves on the Negro girl.

Two Acquitted Of Rape Charge

Constitution

27e (2)

MARIETTA—A jury yesterday acquitted Bill Jones, of Cairo, and Earl White, of Marietta, of rape charges brought March 31 by a 17-year-old Marietta girl.

Ga.

Thur. 4-27-50

The verdict came after Defense Attys. Grady Vandiver and Raymond Reed accused the complainant of "deliberately lying" on the witness stand. The jury deliberated more than two hours.

Sol. Gen. Jim Manning and his assistants told jurors that White, a married man with one child, had induced the girl to drink beer at a Marietta drive-in March 31 and then, accompanied by Jones, took her on a wild three-hour ride, during which "both criminally attacked her." She was thrown from the car, Manning charged, somewhere between Austell and Mableton.

Atlanta Ga.

The case was heard before one of the largest crowds ever to pack into the Cobb County Courthouse.

Two Men Convicted For Attack Attempt

News

Wed.

ROME, Ga., April 25—(AP)—Two white men were convicted and sentenced to three to five years in prison last night for attempting to rape a 13-year-old Negro girl.

4-26-50

A third white youth was expected to go on trial today on charges of rape in connection with the same case.

Birmingham

27e (2)

Ala.

An all-white male jury, composed mostly of farmers, deliberated almost two hours before returning a verdict of "guilty of assault with intent to rape." The jury fixed the penalty.

Ga.

Convicted last night were James Marion Elder, 26, of Rockmart, and Jerald David Hicks, 24, of Dallas. Still to be tried is 20-year-old Louie Eugene Byars, of Rome.

Two doctors testified they examined the Negro girl shortly after the incident and could find no evidence of rape.

8076

Man Jailed 25 Years Gets Nothing

27e(2)

CHICAGO (ANP)—A man who spent the past 25 years in jail paying for a crime which he didn't commit has received no financial compensation for the injustice and may have to seek public assistance.

James Montgomery, 56, a World War I veteran, has been existing off the kindnes of friends and relatives for the six months that he has been free.

Governor Does Nothing

Luis Kutner, the attorney, whose efforts obtained Montgomery's freedom, said that the Governor of Illinois has made no effort to have the State Legislature approve an appropriation for funds to help compensate the injustice.

Montgomery was jailed in 1924 for allegedly attacking a white woman, a 62-year-old peddler.

Kutner became involved in the case three years ago, and was able to prove that the jailed man had been framed. The victim of the injustice was freed by a decision handed down by U.S. District Court Judge Michael Igoe.

Innocent Ill. Man Jailed 25 Years

27e(2)

CHICAGO — James Montgomery, 57, who served 25 years in the Illinois State Penitentiary for a crime which he did not commit, last week, filed a $250,000 compensation suit against the State of Illinois.

Montgomery was sentenced to a life term in 1924 on a charge of criminally attacking a 62-year old white woman, whom it was later found had never been molested.

The medical report which showed that the alleged victim had not been attacked had been purposely suppressed during the original trial 26 years ago.

No Work Since Release

Montgomery was released from prison, last August, after he testified at a retrial that the prosecution had threatened to turn him over to the Ku Klux Klan if he tried to defend himself against the attack charges.

In his suit for $250,000, Montgomery charges that he has been unable to obtain work since his release from prison and has to depend upon public assistance for a living.

RAPIST TRIBUNE NABBED IN 1928 SEEKS FREEDOM

27e(2)

3-29-50

Malachey Crowe, Negro rapist now serving a 60 year sentence in the Joliet state penitentiary, filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in federal District court here yesterday. He seeks release from prison on the ground that he was forcibly returned to Chicago without extradition formalities after his arrest in Kansas City, Kas., on Feb. 22, 1928.

Crowe's arrest climaxed a five month search for him by the late Mose Lamson, former Tribune police reporter. Crowe was found working as a houseman in the home of J. V. Holmes, 5501 High dr., Kansas City, Kas.

The petition alleges that after Crowe was arrested by Chicago and Kansas City police officers, he was taken to the Kansas City, Mo., police station, and placed on a train for Chicago that night. The Holmes residence, the petition says, is 100 yards from the Missouri line, in Kansas.

Crowe confessed raping a Chicago nurse whom he lured to a home in Winnetka, where he was employed, after she had inserted a want ad in THE TRIBUNE seeking employment.

INDICT LOMBARD MAN, 27, IN RAPE ATTEMPT STORY

27e(2)

4-4-50

Jerry C. Sindler, 27, of Harding st., Lombard, yesterday was indicted by the Du Page county grand jury on the charge of assault with intent to commit rape. Complainant was a 20 year old Chicago girl who charged Sindler blackened her eyes, knocked out a tooth and kicked her March 17 when she resisted his advances after he took her to the forest preserve near York and Roosevelt rds., Du Page county. Bond for Sindler, son of an executive of a St. Charles printing company, was fixed at $5,000.

Seized After Chase; Face Girl's Charges

4-11-50

27e(2)

John C. Hohmann, John W. Lecas, James Erickson, Edward J. Melaniphy, Paul Schmidt, and Joseph Martorano (left to right) in Albany Park police station yesterday after they were seized on girl's rape charge.

[TRIBUNE Photo]

FIVE CAPTURED IN AUTO BOOKED ON RAPE CHARGE

27e(2)

Story of Girl Accepted by Prosecutor

Trib. 4-11-50

Five of six men accused of kidnaping a 17 year old graduate of Manley High school early in the day and taking her for an automobile ride on which she was raped and beaten yesterday were ordered booked on rape charges by Assistant State Atty. Nathan J. Kinnally, in charge of sex crimes investigation.

Edwin T. Breen, first assistant state's attorney, ordered that $20,000 bond be asked for each of the five when they are arraigned in Boys court tomorrow.

The six prisoners, all seized when a police squad rescued the girl from their car, are Edward J. Melaniphy, 18, of 1841 N. Halsted st., unemployed laborer; James Erickson, 18, of 2009 Sedgwick st., stock handler; Paul Schmidt, 17, of 2100 Sheffield av., cartage helper; John C. Hohmann, 18, of 1926 Dayton st., laborer; John W. Lecas, 19, of 2702 Wilton av., and Joseph Martorano, 18, of 1621 Sheffield av., apprentice electrician.

One on Probation

Lecas was placed on two years' probation by Judge Robert Dunne in Juvenile court on July 7, 1948, for taking part in the robbery and severe beating of the Rev. Gowan Williams, 27, Episcopal pastor, in Lincoln park on May 13, 1948.

Martorano is the one not ordered charged with rape by Kinnally. Altho the car used is his and it was his wallet, found at the rape scene, that permitted police to identify the car some distance away, he satisfied the prosecutor that he was drunk and unconscious on the floor of the car at the time. He was charged with disorderly conduct and will appear in court with the others.

Kinnally questioned the men in the sex bureau of the state's attorney's office after hearing the girl's story. She accepted a ride from a car in which she believed were two men, she said, while she stood in the rain at Addison st. and Western av. waiting for a bus. She was returning from an Easter dinner party at the home of friends.

After getting in, she said, she asked to get out. Instead, she related, the men pulled her into the rear seat, slapped her, punched her, and three of them raped her. Physicians at Belmont hospital, where she was taken, confirmed that she had been raped.

Police Find Auto, Girl Victim

The girl's screams, heard by residents near 3912 N. Francisco av., as she was being assaulted in a nearby alley, brought Detectives John Wallace, Walter Hoover, Roland Malone, and Raymond Barker to the scene on a radio call. The car was gone, but the policemen found Martorano's wallet. In it was his license number. The squad, searching the area, saw and stopped the car at Francisco av. and Irving Park rd. In the back seat was the girl, sobbing hysterically.

Altho three of the men insisted yesterday — after admitting intimacy — that the girl had condoned it, police said her screams, torn blouse, and badly cut lip supported her story.

Lecas, who admitted driving the car, named Melaniphy, Erickson, and Schmidt as those who were intimate with the girl. After admitting it, they accused Lecas of the same charge. Lecas denied the charge, and Hohmann said he had nothing to do with the wholie matter. Because of the counter-accusations, Kinnally ordered all five charged with rape.

INDICT DECATUR POLICEMAN IN RAPE OF GIRL, 17

27e(2)

4-13-50

Decatur, Ill., April 12 (AP)—A suspended Decatur park policeman was indicted today on a charge of raping a 17 year old girl after scaring her boy friend into letting the officer take her home.

Named in the indictment was Frank Carter Reed, 35, who was suspended from the force after the girl, now pregnant, went to authorities. The alleged attack occurred Nov. 23.

State's Atty. Perley Lupton said the girld told this story: She and a boy friend were parked in Lake Front park when Reed surprised them. The policeman told the youth to leave, saying he would see that the girl got home safely. When her companion had left, the officer forcibly had relations with the girl, drove her to a block from her home, and warned her to say nothing.

27e(2) 1950 Illinois

8077

Jailed 25 Years for No Crime, Yet—

Illinois Won't Pay Its Debt to 'Big Jim'

Courier Sat. 1-14-50

27e(2) JCL

CHICAGO—Six months have passed and James Montgomery, the man who was wronged by the State of Illinois and made to pay with twenty-five years of his life in jail, for a crime he did not commit, has not received any financial consideration for that grave miscarriage of justice.

Pittsburgh Pa

In fact, Mr. Montgomery, now 56, and a World War I veteran, faces the gloomy prospect of signing up for relief, a pittance which has already been pared to the bone by the State Public Aid Commission.

HAS NO JOB

Unable to find employment and burdened with huge doctor bills for his wife Sentoria's illness, aggravated by the years of worry and grief over her husband's plight, the greying machininst has been forced to exist off the kindness of his lawyer and brother-in-law and friends.

Atty. Luis Kutner, who waged the magnificent battle to free Montgomery, told The Courier that the request for $100.000 for his client as payment for the years he suffered, failed to register with Governor Adlai Stevenson. A letter from the Governor's office, signed by Carl McGowan, administrative assistant, states that there are no funds available for such a cause and that an appropriation for that specific purpose would have to be passed by the State Legislature.

Montgomery resides at 533 Market Street in Waukegan, Ill. He was jailed in 1924 for the alleged rape of Mamie Snow, a 62-year-old peanut peddler. Several attempts to prove Montgomery's innocence failed.

For two years Attorney Kutner investigated the case and revealed that the man had been framed.

Courier 50

Last year Judge Michael Igoe of U. S. District Court issued a decision freeing Montgomery.

Rape Slayers Get 199 and 30 Year Terms

27e(2) JCL

Disappearance of material evidence in the rape slaying of an elderly widow was disclosed yesterday as the two defendants, facing a possible death penalty, halted their trial, switched their pleas to guilty, and were sentenced.

Tribune

Prosecutors and police at the same time took action to devise foolproof procedure for preventing a recurrence of the loss, blamed on negligence.

Thurs

One Sentenced to 199 Years

4/27/50

The case was before Judge Leonard C. Reid of Criminal court who sentenced George Simon, 40, of no permanent address, to 199 years in prison, and Willie T. Johnson, 36, of 3339 Rhodes av., to 30 years. Both are Negroes.

Chicago JCL

The victim was Mrs. Anna Krause, 75, of 5623 Shields av., a domestic, who on April 30, 1949, was dragged into the alley behind 34 S. Halsted st., beaten so mercilessly that six ribs were fractured, and criminally assaulted. Simon and Johnson were captured at the scene. Mrs. Krause died a week later in County hospital without regaining consciousness.

The evidence that vanished was Mrs. Krause's rosary, prayer book, and stained clothing. The rosary and prayer book accounted for her presence in the Halsted st. neighborhood, which is near St. Patrick's.

Taken to Auditor's Office

Instead of being sent to the coroner's office to be held for the police district concerned as usually is done, Mrs. Krause's effects were turned over to the county auditor's office and auctioned or otherwise disposed of.

After discovering the loss Monday as selection of a jury began, Assistant State's Attorneys John Long and John Schaffenegger allowed Simon and Johnson to plead guilty and reported the circumstances to State's Atty. Boyle.

The new procedure, drafted by Deputy Police Commissioner Timothy O'Connor, Detective Chief Andrew Aitken, and Boyle's aids, requires that property involved in homicide cases be sent to the police custodian to be held until released by order of Aitken.

ROBBER-RAPIST SLUGS 2 WOMEN; MAKES ESCAPE

Tribune

Sat. 4-29-50

Police were searching the northwest side last night for a teen-aged rapist. He had viciously beat a housewife and in his flight had slugged a second woman until she was unconscious, then raped her in the basement of her apartment building.

27e(2) Chicago JCL

The assailant, described by both victims as blond, about 19, and wearing a plaid jacket, entered the apartment of Mrs. Lillian Shakman, 37, of 2325 N. Kedzie av., shortly after 8 a. m. as she was dressing her son, Stephen, 4.

Woman's Finger Broken

Mrs. Shakman, who police said is an expectant mother, said the intruder appeared confused and grabbed a slipper and struck her several times on the head. As she screamed he attempted to overpower her and she suffered a broken finger as she fought him off. Her assailant fled when the woman's two other sons, Michael, 7, and Robert 6, ran into the room in answer to her screams.

Fleeing down the rear stairs from the Shakman apartment the attacker cut thru a gangway running towards Sawyer av. There between two buildings at 2439 and 2941 N. Sawyer av. he came upon the second woman, who was leaving for work in a department store.

Two Suspects Released

The woman was felled by a blow and dragged into the boiler room and assaulted. The victim, a 37 year old divorcee, did not regain consciousness for several minutes after her assailant had escaped with her purse containing $10 and a $75 watch. Her clothing was torn and she had suffered a broken wrist and cuts and bruises. She was taken to Augustana hospital. Mrs. Shakman meanwhile was treated in Walther Memorial hospital.

Capt. John I. Howe of the Shakespeare av. police said two suspects with sex offense records had been seized but were released when neither woman could identify them.

EX-CONVICT GETS LIFE SENTENCE ON RAPE CHARGE

27e(2)

Tribune

Carl Radzki, 37, of 3108 N. Kimball av., an ex-convict, convicted of rape April 26 by a jury of seven women and five men, was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday by Judge John J. Lupe of Criminal court. The sentencing had been delayed by a motion for a new trial, which Lupe denied. The penalty, the maximum for rape, was fixed by the jury in its verdict. Radzki criminally assaulted a 42 year old housewife last Dec. 31, only two weeks after his release from Statesville prison, where he had served a rape sentence. The assault occurred after Radzke held up the victim and her husband, a radio technician, near their home.

5-9-50

Chicago JCL

VOTE TO INDICT COUPLE IN RAPE OF SCHOOL GIRL

Rape true bills were reported voted by the grand jury yesterday against John M. Liggett, 23, a mechanic, and his wife, Shirley Ann, 18, a solderer and mother of a 6 month old boy, both of 1030 N. California av.

Tribune

The action was reported after the jury heard a 14 year old school girl and her mother. Liggett is accused of assaulting the girl in his automobile last Wednesday while Mrs. Liggett forcibly restrained her.

27e(2)

Tues. 10-10-50

The same charge was placed against both husband and wife because Illinois statutes define the offense of an accessory to rape as rape. Maximum penalty on conviction would be one year to life. The bond for each defendant was set at $20,000.

Chicago JCL

MOVE TO INDICT COUPLE TODAY IN RAPE OF GIRL

Tribune

Mon. 10-8-50

27e(2) JCL

Grand jury action will be sought today against John M. Liggett, 23, of 1030 N. California av., and his wife, Shirley Ann, 18, mother of a six months old boy, in the rape of a 14 year old girl whom the wife allegedly held during the assault.

The action was ordered after the Liggetts admitted the crime in statements to Assistant State's Atty. Nathan Kinnally. They were arrested Friday when they showed up for a prearranged meeting with the girl.

Chicago

The Liggetts appeared at a detective bureau showup yesterday afternoon after which they were ordered booked, Liggett on a charge of rape and Mrs. Liggett as an accessory. The maximum penalty on either charge is one year to life.

Mrs. Liggett, interviewed by a reporter in the Racine av. station women's lockup, berated her husband and said she would turn state's evidence to be free of him.

"I've taken a lot of beatings from that guy," she said. "He hates my mother. If he ever gets out of prison, I want to get in—I'm afraid of him."

She disclosed that she had been a rape victim at the age of 15. She told her husband about it after their marriage, she related, and he became moody whenever the matter was mentioned, until she finally agreed he should try to seduce a young girl.

Mrs. Liggett told the reporter that she and the girl were threatened by her husband before the rape. She said he threatened to strike them with a wrench and that she was too frightened to interfere.

Prosecutor Kinnally said her statement at the sex bureau contained no indication that she feared her husband. He said she gave "sordid details" of their two years of married life.

Liggett admitted to Police Capt. John T. O'Malley that he and two other men were intimate with another 14 year old girl several months ago. Liggett also told of making improper gestures and exposing himself to seven other young girls and twice as many women at various times in the last year, O'Malley said.

Mrs. Liggett worked days as a radio and television solderer and her husband was a machinist.

MAN AND WIFE TO BE TRIED FOR RAPE ON NOV. 20

10-18-50

Trial of John W. Liggett, 23, and his wife, Shirley Ann, 18, of 1030 N. California av., for the rape of a 14 year old girl was set for Nov. 20 before Judge Wilbert F. Crowley by Chief Justice Frank Padden in Criminal court yesterday.

Liggett admitted he raped the girl Oct. 4 while his wife, mother of a child, held her. Both pleaded not guilty to the grand jury indictment, in which the same charge was made against both, as required by Illinois statutes. 10-18-50

Liggett told police he brooded over his wife's story that she had been raped when she was 15. They decided, he said, that he should seduce a young girl, but the intended victim they picked up in his automobile resisted.

27e(2) 1950

Kentucky

8078

Trusty Given 5-10 Years in Attack on Girl

27e(2)

Constitution Ky

Constitution State News Service

LOUISVILLE—Pete Coleman, a white prisoner of a State Prison Camp, was given five to 10 years in prison by a Jefferson County Superior Court here yesterday for a December attack on a Negro schoolgirl.

Jun. '50

[illegible]

The prisoner, a trusty serving a life term for murder, was, according to the evidence, driving a road scraper when he came upon the girl on a lonely road. He dragged her into the woods and beat her with a hammer, police said. The girl was in critical condition for several months.

The case was tried in a packed courtroom of orderely spectators, both black and white.

Judge Robert H. Humphrey pronounced the sentence.

8079

FIND HONEYCUTT GUILTY 2ND TIME

Times-Picayune

Jury Out for 24 Minutes in Opelousas

Thurs. 5-25-50

(Special to The Times-Picayune)

Opelousas, La., May 24—For the second time a jury of all-white men found Edward Honeycutt, Farmerville Negro, guilty as charged for the aggravated rape of a white woman of Eunice, mother of three young children. Death by electrocution is mandatory for the offense.

New Orleans

La

The jury, which received the case in the 27th judicial district court of St. Landry at 12:25 p. m. Wednesday, stayed out 24 minutes.

The verdict was read to the court by Louis Budden of Palmetto, foreman of the jury. Honeycutt sat unmoved as he has done during the three days of court proceedings.

27e(2)

He was previously found guilty of the crime and sentenced to death in this district court in 1949. The supreme court set aside the death sentence and remanded the case here on the grounds that the jury failed to offer sufficient rebuttal to Honeycutt's claim that he was forced to make a confession. The confession was not introduced during the second trial.

La

While Honeycutt was awaiting his first trial he claimed three white men took him from the St. Landry parish (county) jail to lynch him. He said they carried him to the banks of the Atchafalaya river here and flipped coins to see which one would kill him.

He told officers while they gambled to determine his executioner he escaped by swimming the river.

Honeycutt never identified his captors and the claim was never substantiated.

The defense did not put Honeycutt on the stand Wednesday. They called one witness, Clarence Guillory of Eunice, who said he "understands," Honeycutt had gotten into some trouble there. Eight witnesses called by the defense from Farmerville did not appear in court.

Honneycutt's Negro lawyers based their defense on the fact that only the woman he was alleged to have attacked positively identified him.

They did not announce if they would appeal the case and Judge Lessley Gardiner did not set a date for sentencing the defendant. The case was prosecuted by District Attorney J. Y. Fontenot.

Expecting trouble bcause of the racial issue involved, extra troopers were sent here with deputies from the office of Sheriff Clayton Guilbeau. They imposed a heavy guard in and around the packed courtroom. There was no show or any kind of disturbance, however.

MAN REINDICTED ON RAPE CHARGE

Times-Picayune

Once-Convicted Suspect to Get New Trial

Sat. 5-13-50

(The Associated Press)

Opelousas, La., May 12—A St. Landry parish grand jury has reindicted Edward Honeycutt on a charge of raping a white woman.

Honneycutt is the Negro who told a story of three white men who flipped coins to see which would kill him.

New Orleans La

The case dates back to Dec. 1, 1948, when a white woman was raped near Eunice, La.

Tried on a charge of aggravated rape, Honeycutt told the jury that he was beaten before a confession was obtained.

5-13-50

The jury convicted him and sentenced him to death.

While he was confined on the original charge he was spirited out of jail by three white men. He told officers he escaped while the men flipped coins to determine who would kill him. He was taken into custody after hiding out overnight.

27e(2)

The state supreme court ordered a new trial on the grounds that the state failed to produce sufficient evidence that Honeycutt's purported confession was voluntary.

La

Defense attorneys also argued that Negroes were excluded from the panel from which the grand jury had been chosen. The supreme court did not act on this contention.

In the latest indictment, returned Tuesday, the grand jury included two Negroes.

MAN REINDICTED ON RAPE CHARGE

Times-Picayune

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Honeycutt Must Die For 'Rape'

Informer

Sat. 11-18-50

27e(2)

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — Edward Honeycutt, convicted and sentenced to die in the electric chair for aggravated rape on a white woman near Eunice, La. Dec. 1, must die. His appeals was turned down by the supreme court here last week when his attorney sought to have the court sustain a motion to quash the indictment. The higher tribunal affairmed the lower court decision.

The occasion marked the second time that the state supreme court has ruled in the Honeycutt case. The first time, the case was remanded to the lower court.

Man Who Fled Mob Loses 2nd Trial For Rape

27e(2)

La

OPELOUSAS, La — Edward W. T. Honeycutt, who escaped from a lynching mob by swimming a river a few months ago while awaiting second trial for aggravated rape, was convicted again last week.

Despite the unprecedented appearance of Negro lawyers here to defend Honeycutt, there were no outbursts during the trial, not even when the white woman described in detail how she was raped.

Sat. 6-3-50

A thousand Negro spectators jammed the Jim Crow balcony and mingled freely with the white spectators during the week-long trial, which ended in a guilty verdict, which means death in the electric chair for Honeycutt.

The defendant was represented by Attorneys Berry, Jackson and LaCour. LaCour teaches at the Southern university Jim Crow law school. The trio was retained by the Louisiana branch NAACP to insure Honeycutt adequate representation and a fair trial, grounds on which the appeals court had returned the case to the district court for retrial.

Honeycutt escaped from a mob bent on lynching him some months ago. He got away by jumping into a river and swimming to the opposite shore while his abductors were deciding who was to kill him.

Seven Sentened To Twenty Years for Rape

Solicited By 'Feeble-Minded' Woman, Husband

By JAMES B. LAFOURCHE

ARCADIA, La.—(ANP)—Seven men, one white, the husband of the "feeble-minded" woman involved and six Negro farm laborers were each sentenced to 20 years in the state penitentiary last week on a charge of "simple rape."

The defendants were all arrested by Sheriff Prentis M. Oakley, of Bienville parish. Guilty pleas were entered by the defendants, according to arresting officers.

27 Feb [illegible]

Interdicted by Dr. R. C. Ferguson, parish coroner, the sharecropper's white wife, 20 years old, was sent to the Central Louisiana hospital for the insane at Pineville.

[illegible]

According to the sheriff and his deputies, the white man and his wife both admitted having solicited the Negroes to perform immoral relations with the wife, at their residence south of Ringgold.

The Negroes it is stated, all confessed they had visited the woman in the kitchen of her two-room house at night while her husband and three small children were in the bedroom, and had immoral relations with her on one or more occasions.

Call

The sharecropper's small residence is located six miles south of Ringgold on the Hall Summit road near Red River parish line. And the man, Wiley Griffith Jr., 28, admitted that he was alone responsible for the solicitation of the Negroes' patronage.

[illegible]

Negroes sent to the state penitentiary were K. Sonnie, 26 and Tennessee Alluma, 36, both of near Castor, and Arzona Rasco, 39; Julius Stafford, 37; Amos King Jr., 28, and L. V. Sims, 24, all of whom resided in the same county where the Griffiths lived.

[illegible]

The charge of simple rape as defined by the D. A.'s office, is one which is invoked in cases wherein a man has immoral relations with a woman who, although consenting, is unable to understand the nature of the act because of feeble-mindedness or for other reasons.

The sentence was the severest that Judge Ayer could mete out against the defendants. The statute under which the charge were filed provides for a penalty, upon conviction, of not less than one year nor more than 20 years, at hard labor in the state penitentiary.

"In all my 18 years as a peace officer," said Sheriff Oakley, "this county chairman of Morton coun y.

He is publisher of the Tri-State News in Elkhart which serves by the state welfare department.

Griffith's wife was 14 years old when they married.

27e(2) 1950

Louisiana

8080

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Date 6-3-50 27E(2)

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27e(2)   1950   Maryland

8081

Meade Soldier Held In Wac Rape Case

27e (2)

BALTIMORE, Oct. 9 (AP).—James L. [illegible]rrar, 22, an army corporal from [illegible] Forge, Va., today was held without bail for action of a Federal grand jury [illegible] charge of raping a 40-year-old Wac at Fort Meade, Md.

Rapist Serving Life To Be Given Parole

[illegible] 11-22-50

By the Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Nov. 22.—A 30-year-old North Carolina man sentenced to life imprisonment for raping a woman in Cecil County, Md., seven years ago will be paroled, Gov. Lane announced yesterday.

27e (2)

Ralph Mackey, colored, ex-Army ordnance corporal, "has adjusted to confinement," Gov. Lane quoted Maryland penitentiary authorities. "They strongly recommend release on parole," he said.

Mackey, then stationed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, and another soldier were accused of raping two women hitch-hikers who were employed at an Elkton explosives plant.

Other paroles included:

Louis W. Sorrell, 20, colored, Anne Arundel County Circuit Court; maximum two years, reformatory, breaking and entering, larceny. Served 15 months.

Samuel Nickens, 21, colored, Anne Arundel County Circuit Court, maximum three years, reformatory, breaking and entering. Served 22 months.

Edwin L. Gartrell, 28, Carroll County Circuit Court, five years, house of correction, assault with deadly weapon. Served 33 months.

Louis Travis, 20, colored, Charles County Circuit Court, maximum three years, reformatory, larceny. Served 20 months.

Philip L. Cole, 38, colored, Charles County Magistrate's Court, 18 months, house of correction, carrying concealed deadly weapon. Served eight months.

Harold H. Smith, 25, Montgomery County Magistrate's and Circuit Courts, 18 months, carrying concealed weapon, forgery. Served 10 months.

George A. Thomas, 18, colored, Montgomery County Magistrate's Court, 14 months, assault. Served six months.

Robert M. Murray, 31, colored, Prince Georges County Circuit Court, 12 months, house of correction, assault with intent to kill. Served six months.

Bernard M. Hunter, 20, colored, St. Marys County Circuit Court, two years, penitentiary, grand larceny. Served 13 months.

8883

Willie McGee

Willie McGee will die next Tuesday, May 8, in the electric chair for the alleged rape of a white woman in Laurels, Mississippi unless Governor Fielding Wright intervenes and grants a stay of execution. He has had three trials, but a great number of people, white and Negro, still feel that McGee was accused of one thing and found guilty of something entirely different.

27e(2)

Undoubtedly, the dramatic appearance, if not intrusion of the Civil Rights Congress, a so-called Communist front outfit, has prejudiced his chances for an impartial hearing. Since they seem no longer interested in speaking out for justice for him, nor did they seem to care about the evidence presented either by the prosecution or defense.

The facts in the case show that on November 2, 1945 McGee entered the home of a white woman in the dead of night and raped her. McGee's fingerprints and the statement of alleged victim were apparently the main support of the prosecution's case.

During the course of the trial, it was established that the woman's husband and children were asleep in the adjoining room. Testimony of the woman shows that she made no outcry against McGee's presence in the home nor in her room. She said she didn't want to awake the children. The defense stoutly maintains that there was an entirely voluntary relationship between McGee and the woman for more than three years. She is supposed to have sent McGee a note asking him for a date while buying gasoline at the filling station where he worked. McGee testified that he complied with her wishes but decided to break off the affair.

According to the defense, the woman never underwent an examination so as to establish rape. Many questions are still unanswered by both defense and prosecution in this case and there certainly seems little evidence to warrant taking a man's life. One white Mississippian said: "I don't think McGee is guilty of rape, but since he is hooked up with the Communists I don't think he ought to be given another trial."

His lawyer withdrew from the case after the Civil Rights Congress took up the fight. There is not much sentiment in Mississippi for intervention by the Governor. The press, from the outset of the Civil Rights Congress intervention, has been noticeably hostile to any help for McGee. Notwithstanding, it will be a great blow to communist influence in America should the Governor dispose of the case short of the chair, since death in the chair will provide the ammunition for which the communists are looking.

Willie McGee Dies For Rape

LAUREL, MISS., May 8—(AP)—Willie McGee was executed Tuesday.

But supporters still claimed the 37-year-old Negro was innocent

of the rape of a white woman for which he died after five and a half years of legal battling.

One long charge of electricity ended his life at 12:05 a.m. (CST) Tuesday. He was pronounced dead officially five minutes later.

His attorneys fought to the last minute to save the short, bushy-haired Negro from Mississippi's portable electric chair. But 11th hour appeals Monday night to Gov. Fielding Wright, the U. S. District Court, the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, the U. S. Supreme Court and President Truman failed.

In San Francisco, Harry Bridges, longshore leader, said McGee's execution "was a lynching of an American solely because of the color of his skin."

William L. Patterson, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, said in New York that "Willie McGee, an innocent man, has been executed only because he was a Negro."

27e(2)

McGee's attorneys contended in court that no white man has ever been executed in Mississippi for rape. They said he was innocent, and convicted on perjured testimony without having an opportunity to have his entire story told to a jury.

McGee was arrested in Hattiesburg, Miss., Nov. 3, 1945, the day after a Laurel housewife reported she had been raped in a bedroom of her home. He was tried and convicted three times in circuit court. The Mississippi Supreme Court upset the first two victions on technicalities.

When the court upheld the third conviction and death sentence, the case was appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court. Three times that court refused to review the case.

Willie McGee Is Facing Death

Only Last Minute Action Can Save Rapist From Chair

JACKSON, MISS., May 7—(AP)—Only the possibility of last minute action by either the U. S. Supreme Court or the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals remained between Willie McGee and midnight execution in the electric chair.

U. S. District Court Sidney Mize Monday night refused a civil injunctive action to save the thrice-convicted 37-year-old Negro rapist of a white woman in November, 1945.

27e(2)

McGee was taken by authorities from his Hinds County (Jackson) jail cell for the 90-mile trip to Laurel, Miss., to be executed at 12:01 a.m. (CST). Under Mississippi procedure execution is held in the courtroom of the county of original jurisdiction.

Attorneys for McGee claimed his civil rights had been violated; that he is innocent; that he was convicted on perjured testimony and sentenced to die only because he is a Negro. They contended no white man ever has been executed in Mississippi for rape.

The petition for a restraining injunction was the only matter before Judge Mize Monday. McGee's suit charging that his civil rights were violated in his trial was not at issue.

In refusing the injunction, Judge Mize said that the court's action in itself would not do an "irreparable injury" to McGee, as attorneys for McGee had pleaded.

"The plaintiff brought that on himself by his own criminal conduct and his failure to testify and present all evidence in his own behalf when given every opportunity to do so," Judge Mize said.

Mrs. Bella Abzug, of New York, attorney for McGee, asked for an immediate copy of the order, saying that Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Wayne Borah in New Orleans would immediately be asked to consider an appeal.

"The emergency was not brought on by this court, by any court of the State of Mississippi," Judge Mize said. "It was brought on by the petitioner's failure to file this complaint, probably years ago. Everything alleged to in this complaint was known certainly since 1948.

"Every point presented here has been argued before a court of competent jurisdiction or could have been. All points were passed on and decided against the petitioner."

While this case was before Judge Mize, McGee's attorneys also petitioned the U. S. Supreme Court to halt the execution.

The Supreme Court three times has refused to review McGee's criminal trails.

Wright Withholds Decision on McGee Hearing Saturday

5-6-51

By FRANCES BAKER BRIGGS

Governor Wright has rejected a "Pontius Pilate attitude" in the Willie McGee rape case, but Sunday he had not announced his decision on the Negro's plea for a reprieve or pardon.

McGee, convicted Laurel Negro rapist, is scheduled to die in the state's electric chair shortly after midnight Monday.

Saturday Governor Wright told McGee's attorneys:

"When I make my decision, I certainly won't 'wash my hands of the matter' and say 'it was all the work of the courts'."

"When I make my decision, I'll assume full responsibility," he declared.

27e(2)

These statements were made at the conclusion of the hearing at which McGee's counsel asked for clemency—either a pardon or a commutation—or, this failing, a stay of execution for the holding of a hearing with McGee himself, his wife, and a "new witness."

John Coe, of Pensacola, Fla., one of the attorneys told Governor Wright:

"It would be the easy way for your excellency to wash your hands, like Pilate, and say, 'The courts did it, not I.' The hard way would be to see that McGee had equality before the law."

Coe and Mrs. Bella Abzug, of New York City, said they asked clemency on two contentions: (1) that there was "some doubt" as to McGee's guilt, and (2), that no white man in Mississippi had been executed for the crime of rape for the past 50-75 years, and the death sentence to McGee represented discrimination bcause of color and race.

News photographers were banned from the New Capitol hearing and were threatened with arrests if pictures were taken inside the building. A Daily News cameraman insisted he was going to take pictures anyway and the highway patrol relaxed its rule to permit picture-taking on the Capitol grounds.

Governor Wright said he would let the attorneys know his decision, but did not indicate when he might make an announcement.

Meanwhile, McGee's attorneys were expected to try some new legal maneuver if their petition to Governor Wright fails.

Asked their plans, they both replied, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." However, both Coe and Mrs. Abzug visited McGee in his cell Saturday morning and obtained his signature on a new document.

Coe told the Governor that doubt as to McGee's guilt exists in a "widespread" area, and advised him to "take heed of the public relations of the country."

Wright, who remained silent throughout the hearing except for a few brief remarks, told Coe that any "doubt that has been created is based on the propaganda that has been put out — propaganda based on absolute falsehood."

Coe said "unjust opinion, born of prejudice and a thirst for vengeance is vocal and vociferous—."

Wright answered: "Any vociferousness in this case has not come from the State of Mississippi. All of it has come from outside the state from people who know absolutely nothing about the case."

Both Coe and Mrs. Abzug contended that the only evidence to support McGee's conviction was his confession, which they said he repudiated.

Governor Wright and Attorney General J. P. Coleman challenged this contention.

Wright and Coleman pointed out that testimony of two witnesses placed McGee in the immediate vicinity of the crime, and that McGee repudiated his confession only in a conference in the third lower court trial and never took the stand as a witness in his own behalf.

Governor Wright repeatedly warned Mrs. Abzug and Coe to "stick to the facts."

When Mrs. Abzug contended there was "some doubt" as to McGee's guilt, the governor stated:

"You think there is 'some doubt.' Why didn't you take that position when you painted the picture to the world that he was an absolutely innocent man."

5-6-51

Mrs. Abzug declared that in her opinion McGee was an "absolutely innocent man."

McGee's attorneys submitted to

the Governor an affidavit they said was signed by "Hattie Johnson" Negro woman of Pensacola, Fla. They said the woman was a witness on McGee's behalf who had not been allowed to testify, and alleged that according to the Negro woman, McGee had been at her place for several hours before and after the crime.

Coleman pointed out that the Johnson woman's affidavit was "trotted out" only the day before the March 5 hearing on a petition for a writ of habeas corpus held in the Federal court in Vicksburg. Governor Wright said the contents of the affidavit were contradicted by the court testimony of two other Negroes, both of whom were with McGee on the night of the crime.

27E(2)

Attorney General Coleman, in a forceful statement, declared that commutation of McGee's sentence, instead of strengthening confidence in the state of Mississippi, would be the "severest blow ever struck against the courts of the state."

"On account of the propaganda that someone has conspired in this case and broadcast to the whole world, it is a cruel fact that if McGee's sentence were commuted, we would have to admit that a certain group was able to band together and completely overturn all our state courts have done," he stated.

Laurel Mayor Carroll Gartin read an appeal to the Governor not to grant clemency in the case.

He said he "denounced and resented" the "aspersions which have been cast upon the administration of justice in Jones county, in the state of Mississippi, and even in the United States of America."

"Society, as well as criminals, has its rights," Gartin continued. "One of these rights is the enforcement of its laws without needless, vexatious and asinine delay. If the courts of this country and the law of the land are to be perverted into a sanctuary where criminals may abide indefinitely with impunity, the administrations of justice will become a farce."

Gartin said there was neither "decency nor humanity in the false and reckless efforts which are being made by this convicted criminal's Communist friends to besmirch the name and honor of his helpless victim in order that he might longer live to laugh at the law."

Mississippi 'Dragnet' Jails 41 During McGee Hearing

By JOHN POPHAM

Special to The New York Times and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

JACKSON, Miss., May 5 — Forty-one men and women were arrested Saturday on charges of conspiring to obstruct justice in connection with a governor's clemency hearing in the case of Willie McGee, 36-year-old Negro sentenced to die for raping a white woman.

10(2)

While a law enforcement "dragnet" of city police and state highway patrolmen rounded up the alleged conspirators on the city streets in the vicinity of the state capitol building, Gov. Fielding L. Wright reserved decision on a plea by McGee's lawyers that his scheduled execution be set aside "in the interests of justice as it may be developed in future events."

Attorneys for McGee argued mainly that he should be pardoned or else given life imprisonment in lieu of death on the grounds that there was a serious doubt as to his guilt and also that his execution would constitute an "unequal application of punishment by reason of race." They charged that no white man convicted of rape in Mississippi had ever been put to death.

In addition, McGee's attorneys filed a civil rights damage suit in U. S. District Court. It charges law officers violated the defendant's civil rights. A hearing was set for 2 p. m. Monday.

While the first hearing was under way in the governor's chambers, highway patrolmen guarded the capitol grounds and announced that they would "take into protective custody" any persons who congregated in the area. City police moved about the streets near by and checked on "suspicious" persons.

Within two hours the law enforcement officers had given "protective custody" to 41 persons, about evenly divided as to whites and Negroes. They were all taken to the city police station, where they were given a noon meal. One police officer remarked that the month of May has been officially designated as Mississippi's "hospitality month."

Later in the afternoon it was announced at the police station that all of the prisoners had been officially charged with a misdemeanor of conspiracy to obstruct justice.

They were subsequently marched in single file to the court building about 50 yards away. After a brief conference in private between city officials and McGee's lawyers, it was announced that a trial would not be held at this time and that the defendants would be released in their own recognizance by order of the court, Attorney General J. P. Coleman of Mississippi said in court it was his understanding that the release agreement was reached on condition that the accused hailing from other states leave the state at once.

After five and one half years—

Willie McGee put to death in chair as all appeals fail

LAUREL, Miss., May 8—(AP)— Willie McGee, who fought a long, losing fight against being put to death as a rapist, died in the electric chair early today.

27E(2)

Political issues colored the final months of the legal battles on behalf of the Negro convicted of raping a white woman five and a half years ago.

The case attracted worldwide attention.

Wed. 5-8-51

Up until the final hour supporters sought a stay of execution from Gov. Fielding Wright; U. S. District Judge Sidney Mize at Jackson, Miss.; U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Wayne G. Borah at New Orleans; Associate U. S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black; Chief Justice Fred Vinson of the United States, and President Truman.

ALL APPEALS were denied on the case which the State Supreme Court of Mississippi had ruled upon three times, and the U. S. Supreme Court had refused to review another three times. Gov. Wright had once before declined executive clemency asked by members of the Civil Rights Congress.

Wright several weeks ago attributed the thousands of telegrams, letters and phone calls he received at least in part to action inspired by Communists. Some of the letters came from as far distant as Red China.

Political demonstrations at Jackson, Miss., and Washington, D. C., marked the final efforts made this past week-end to save McGee. Yesterday, about 25 persons picketing the White House carried signs saying ""Old soldiers never die—but lynch victims do" and "You fired MacArthur—now fire Jim Crow."

While these efforts were going on, McGee, a slight 37-year-old grocery truck driver, was being held in the Hinds (Jackson) County Jail.

One previous last day stay of execution arrived only four hours before he was scheduled to die for the rape of a Laurel housewife in her bedroom in November, 1945.

McGee Sympathizers Said On Way To State Capital

City police by 9:30 a. m. (time of the hearing) had placed in jail 11 McGee sympathizers who were in the group that came down from Memphis. They were arrested around the capitol building.

27E(3)

State Patrolmen later dispersed a group of about 25 women headed by a leader of the Civil Righters, warning them that "You will have to break it up or go to jail." The women had huddled around the Baptist Building, opposite the new capitol building.

An undetermined number of sympathizers in the Willie McGee rape case reportedly were en route from Memphis, Tenn., to Jackson early Saturday — the morning on which Governor Wright was to hold a hearing with the convicted Negro's attorneys.

5-5-51

State Highway patrolmen and Jackson city police were alerted, to prevent any violence of any type.

Guards of highway patrolmen sion on duty at the Governor's mansion and the State Capitol building.

The hearing was to take place at the Capitol building.

City police were watching the hotels of the city, as a precautionary measure to prevent violence.

All city police officers were alerted. Even those off duty were ordered to "stand by."

Governor Fielding L. Wright Saturday morning was to hear attorneys for Willie McGee, convicted Laural Negro rapist, regarding a petition for a hearing on McGee's plea for a pardon.

McGee is scheduled to die in the state's electric chair Tuesday for the rape of a white Laurel housewife in November 1945.

Governor Wright stipulated that McGee was to be represented in

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LAUREL — (Special) — Members of the working press will be barred from witnessing the execution May 8 of Willie McGee, thrice-convicted Negro rapist, according to Sheriff Steve Brogan. "We will welcome the visiting press to Laurel, but they will not be allowed to witness the execution," the sheriff said in turning down a blanket request that eight staff writers and photographers representing the Associated Press, United Press, Jackson Daily News, Jackson Clarion-Ledger, Memphis Commercial-Appeal and New Orleans Times-Picayune be allowed to watch the condemned man walk to the chair. Brogan said he "would adhere to the letter of the law."

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the hearing Saturday by none except his attorneys who represented him in the court litigation.

Mrs. Bella Abzug, of New York City, and John Coe, Pensacola, Fla., both employed by the Civil Rights Congress, Communist-front organization, were to represent McGee in the hearing Saturday.

They have appeared in his behalf in earlier legal procedures.

Attorney General J. P. Coleman was to sit in on the hearing Saturday.

McGee has been three times convicted by lower state courts. His first two convictions were overturned for technicalities. The State Supreme Court upheld his third conviction, and the Negro has since lost three appeals to the U. S. Supreme court.

8084

McGee's Execution Stay Is Flayed By Mississippi Judge; Wright Tells Disgust With Civil Rights Congress

Enterprise Journal

Action By Burton, High Court Justice, Said Questionable

27e(2)

Fri. 7-28-50

McComb, Miss.

LAUREL, Miss., July 28.—(AP)—A Mississippi judge who sentenced thrice-convicted Willie McGee to death for rape, said he knew of "no law or precedent" for a United States Supreme Court justice staying the Negro's electrocution set for Thursday.

Circuit Court Judge F. Burkitt Collins, who presided at the Negro's three trials, made the statement Thursday after United States Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton in Washington had granted the stay Wednesday.

League Formed

Judge Collins' statement was the newest development in the McGee case after a mass meeting of an estimated 800 Laurel citizens Wednesday night.

Witnesses said speakers at the meeting vowed to fight Communism and uphold courts, law and order in Mississippi. The group formed a "Citizens League."

The Civil Rights Congress of New York, termed a Communist group by the United States Department of Justice, sent delegates to Mississippi to seek executive clemency for McGee.

The 35-year-old Negro was scheduled—until the high court action— to die in the electric chair Thursday after his third conviction for the rape of a white Laurel housewife in 1945.

Judge Collins said:

"I am informed that on petition of Willie McGee, one of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States. . . issued an order staying the execution, thereby nullifying the previous judgment of the whole court."

No Error Found

The Supreme Court, in reviewing McGee's conviction once before, found "no reversible errors in the record," Judge Collins said.

The Laurel judge attended the mass meeting Wednesday night. He told the crowd that Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Percy Lee had informed him the United States Supreme Court justice's order must be accepted as legal procedure.

The crowd formed on the courthouse lawn after it was announced McGee had been granted the stay of execution.

27e(2)

Horace Headrick, Laurel business man, was named chairman of another meeting on a county-wide basis to be held next Wednesday night.

McGee, meanwhile, was removed from the Jones County jail here to the State Capital at Jackson Wednesday night. Newsmen said they saw an unidentified man swing at McGee when he was being escorted to a State Highway Patrol car.

In Jackson, Aubrey Grossman of New York, organizational secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, said Wednesday he was blackjacked by several men who came to his hotel room. Grossman said there were three other instances in which visitors who were interested in the defense of McGee had been manhandled in Jackson.

Wednesday night, in New Orleans, Grossman said Governor Wright, among a group of men who called on him in his Jackson hotel room, told him "we want you to get out of town now."

EXECUTION OF McGEE STAYED BY HIGH COURT

Enterprise-Journal

Justice Burton Grants Laurel Negro A Delay In Meeting Death In Electric Chair

Wed. 7-26-50

WASHINGTON, July 26.—(AP)—A stay of execution Wednesday was granted Willie McGee, Mississippi Negro under sentence to be electrocuted Thursday on a charge of assaulting a Laurel, Miss., white woman in 1945, by Justice Harold Burton of the United State Supreme Court.

27e(2)

Justice Burton announced his decision after a brief hearing in his office.

McComb, Miss.

He acted in the absence of the court which is in recess for the Summer.

The Justice says that under the circumstances, "Justice can best be served" by granting a stay of execution until attorneys for McGee can ask for a writ of review which court attaches say could be considered next October.

JUDGE MIZE RECESSES HABEAS CORPUS HEARING SET WEDNESDAY MORNING

BILOXI, July 26.—(AP)— U. S. District Judge Sidney S. Mize Wednesday recessed a hearing brought by Willie McGee's attorneys for a writ of habeas corpus to give state attorneys time to study the petition.

Mayor Carroll Gartin of Laurel, in Biloxi for the hearing, said when told of the stay of execution that "I am sure the people of Laurel will be law-abiding."

But the mayor added:

"Everyone is feeling pretty tense about the whole thing."

In Jackson Governor Fielding L. Wright said: "No comment."

Twice in 13 Months

It was the second time in 13 months that the United States Supreme Court has snatched McGee from death row within hours of his scheduled execution.

The last time was in June, 1949, when the Negro's attorneys perfected a appeal to the tribunal less than six hours before he was supposed to die. The court later refused to hear the appeal.

Representatives of the Civil Rights Congress of New York—identified by the Justice department as a Communist organization— appeared before Governor Wright Tuesday and pleaded for a stay of execution.

Their contention was that racial prejudice and circumstantial evidence contributed to McGee's conviction.

In a two-hour hearing they argued that the victim, mother of three children, had failed to identify McGee as the rapist.

Wright Kept Promise

After the hearing the Governor told newsmen he would have no statement.

He added—"I promised to hear the Civil Rights group and I did. That is all I have to say."

WILLIE McGEE IS SLATED FOR NEW HEARINGS

Enterprise Journal

Chief Justice McGehee Was To Receive Poole's Petition Monday Afternoon

JACKSON, July 24—(AP)—Willie McGee, Mississippi Negro condemned to die for the 1945 assault of a white woman, was slated to be given a hearing before Chief Justice Harvey of the Mississippi Supreme Court at 1:30 Monday afternoon.

Mon. 7-24-50

Justice McGehee scheduled a hearing on McGee's petition of error coram nobis for that hour after the Negro's attorney filed the petition, asking another trial on grounds that new evidence had been found.

McComb, Miss.

McGee was first convicted in Laurel, home of the housewife he was accused of assaulting. That conviction was set aside because of the high feeling there at the time of the trial. A second conviction, in Jackson, was set aside because there were no Negroes on the grand jury which returned the indictment on which he was tried.

27e(2)

Hearing Failed Saturday

A hearing on the petition had been scheduled Saturday before Circuit Judge F. Burkitt Collins in Laurel, but was dismissed when McGee's attorney failed to appear. The attorney—John R. Poole of Jackson—said later that he failed to appear because he feared he would be attacked.

Poole and two New Yorkers—Mrs. Bella Abzug and Emmanuel Bloch, went before Justice McGehee and sought the hearing.

Governor Fielding Wright also scheduled a hearing Monday requested by the Civil Rights Congress seeking clemency for McGee. Governor Wright limited the hearing to ten Congress members.

The U. S. Justice Department has called he Congress a "Communist organization" — a charge denied by the Congress.

Disbarment Try Launched

It was understood that the petition filed before Justice McGehee by Poole contained "serious charges" against Jones County's district and county attorneys.

27e(2)

In the meantime, Poole, against whom a request for disbarment has been filed with the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar Association said. "The petition for disbarment filed against me and the alleged charges therein are unfounded and untrue. It's a fact that it is to impair the fundamental duty of an attorney to represent a client regardless of his station, creed, race, or the popularity of his cause without fear of reprisal. If I permitted myself to be intimidated, I would be dishonoring not only myself but the entire bar of the State of Mississippi."

Enterprise Journal

Mon. 7-24-50

Execution Put Off For Negro Rapist By Supreme Court

Post Herald

Thur. 7-27-50

Birmingham, Ala.

WASHINGTON, July 26 (U.P.)—Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton today granted a stay of execution to Willie McGee, Mississippi Negro, until he can appeal his rape conviction to the high bench for the third time.

27e(2)

McGee, who has been convicted three times in Mississippi courts of raping a Laurel, Miss., white woman in 1945, was scheduled to die at midnight Thursday. Yesterday the State Supreme Court refused him a writ of error.

Burton said he felt that justice would be served if he granted the stay pending another appeal. The Supreme Court will consider the case when it convenes next Fall. McGee claims he has been denied proper legal counsel

Justice McGehee Grants McGee Case Hearing Today

Times-Picayune

Mon. 7-24-50

On Petition Dismissed Saturday in Laurel

New Orleans, La.

(The Associated Press)

Jackson, Miss., July 23—Willie McGee, 37-year-old convicted Negro rapist facing execution next Thursday, will be given a hearing before chief Justice Harvey McGehee of the state supreme court here Monday.

27 e (2)

The hearing will be on a petition of error coram nobis. The petition was set for hearing Saturday in Laurel, scene of the November, 1945, rape of a white housewife.

Miss.

McGee has been convicted of the crime three times. The rarely-used petition was dismissed by circuit Judge F. Burkitt Collins in Laurel for lack of prosecution after John Poole, McGee's attorney, failed to appear.

The petition sought a new trial on grounds that new evidence had been found.

Meanwhile, Poole, Mrs. Bella Abzuz and a Mr. Brock, both of New York city, appeared before Justice McGehee and asked that the hearing be held here because they were afraid to go to Laurel. The justice passed the petition until 1:30 p. m. Monday.

Gov. Fielding Wright set an open hearing for Tuesday morning for a hearing requested by members of the Civil Rights Congress which has been seeking executive clemency for McGee. The governor limited the hearing to 10 members of the congress.

Poole said Sunday that charges in a petition for his disbarment were unfounded and untrue. The petition was filed by Mayor Carroll Gartin and Attorneys Paul Swartzfager and E. K. Collins, all of Laurel.

It charged that Poole had accepted employment from "subversive and Communistic elements outside the state, knowing his clients to be such." The department of justice and the House un-American activities committee have labeled the Civil Rights Congress as a Communist-front organization.

"The petition for disbarment filed against me and alleged charges therein are unfounded and untrue," Poole said in a statement. "Its effect is to impair the fundamental duty of an attorney to represent a client, regardless of his station, creed, race or the popularity of his cause, without fear of reprisal.

"If I permitted myself to be intimidated I would be dishonoring not only myself, but the entire bar of the state of Mississippi."

Fear Keeps Attorney From McGhee Hearing

Defender. Nat. 7-29-50

Chicago, Ill.

JACKSON, Miss.—When his attorney failed to appear in court last week because "my life had been threatened," Willie McGhee was denied a new trial for the alleged rape of a Laurel, Miss. white woman. Only action by Gov. Fielding Wright can save McGhee from the electric chair now.

Defense Atty. John R. Poole of Jackson refused to go to Laurel after Gov. Wright and Mayor Carrol Gartin denied him police protection.

27 e (2)

Wright declined to grant the protection request and said no dangerous situation existed in Laurel. The Governor, however, agreed to see a committee from the Civil Rights Congress, which is fighting to save the doomed McGhee.

Miss.

Meanwhile, four members of the Jones County Bar Association have drawn up a petition seeking disbarment of Poole from the practice of law. Among other things, Poole is charged with being "aligned with members of subversive and Communistic elements according to his own admission."

Defends Negro Clients

The disbarment attempt is believed to have stemmed from the fact that Poole has often represented Negroes over a period of years in civil rights and other cases against whites.

Two Civil Rights Congress attorneys, Emanuel Bloch and Bella Abrug of New York, were also denied protection while in Laurel. They were sent to Mississippi to aid Poole in McGhee's defense.

The petition asking for a new trial charged that McGhee was convicted on perjured testimony. It also charged that a lynch mob marched on the Court House during one of McGhee's three trials and that McGhee was at present in danger of mob violence.

Mississippi CIO Members Resent Story By Union On Case Of Willie McGee

By HOWARD SUTTLE
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Possibility of a rift between Mississippi members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and officials of the national CIO loomed today as a result of the position of the latter growing out of the case of Willie McGee, thrice-convicted Mississippi Negro rapist.

Daily News

Resentment by some Mississippi CIO members against numerous of the policies of the union's national authorities was intensified by a story in the July 31 issue of the CIO News, official organ of the union, published weekly in Washington.

Fri. 8-4-50

Written by Hollace Ransdell, the story briefly reviewed the McGee case, concluding with an aspersion upon the administration of justice in the southern states, as follows:

"This case brings up again the all-important question of whether it is possible for any Negro in the South to get a fair trial on charges brought by a white woman."

Jackson, Miss.

Abernethy Demands Retraction

Immediately upon reading the article in CIO News, Congressman Thomas G. Abernethy, Okolona, telegraphed J. E. Dicey, president of the Laurel local, International Woodworkers of America, advising that Ransdell had raised the question "of whether it is possible for any Negro in the South to get a fair trial on charges brought by a white woman."

"CIO leaders in the South," Abernethy's telegram stated, "particularly in Mississippi, and more particularly in Laurel, should protest this statement and demand its retraction."

27 e (2)

Dicey promptly replied, promising Abernethy he would present the matter to "my executive board immediately.

Miss.

"I and my executive board have previously issued public statements "backing up Gov. Fielding Wright as to his position (in the McGee case). This was prior to the time of the stay granted by Justcie Burton."

Colmer Quotes Wright Statement

Coincidental with the exchange of telegrams between Abernethy and Dicey, Rep. William M. Colmer, Pascagoula, told his House colleagues here that the current "Save Willie McGee" campaign is an effort by the Communist party, "aided and abetted by the do-gooders, fellow travelers and left wing press." He charged it is a "task in fomenting discord and disunity between the Ngroes and the white people of the South."

In an extension of remarks in the Congressional Record, Colmer inserted the joint statement of Governor Wright, Chief Justice Harvey McGehee and Atty. Gen John Kyle in which the three Mississippi leaders charged that representatives of the Civil Rights Congress—declared by the Justice Department to be a Communist-front organization—who went to Jackson assertedly seeking clemency for McGee, "are more interested in racial strife and civil strife than they are in justice of any kind, legal or moral."

"It is pertinent to inquire whether these emissaries of the Kremlin really want to save Willie McGee," Colmer declared, "or whether they wanted to incite the people of Mississippi into mob violence.

27 e (2)

"Be it said again for the record, to the credit of the governor, the other officers and the people of Mississippi, that if this was their mission, they failed. The people of Mississippi have again proved that they believe in the orderly and legal procedure of justice, even if outsiders attempt to try their patience."

Miss.

CRC Not In CIO Story

Ransdell's story in CIO News, in reviewing the McGee case, did not refer to the "Save Willie McGee" campaign of the Civil Rights Congress. The CIO has recently expelled from its organization certain unions charged with being led by and under influence of Communists and Communist-minded persons. Obviously, Ransdell guarded against voluntarily putting the national CIO news organ "in bed" with an orgainzation officially designated by the Justice Department and the House Un-American Activities as subversive.

Resentment of a number of Mississippi CIO members against the national CIO stand in the McGee case is in line with the recent resignation in Alabama of a union leader, who said he is opposed to CIO policies concerning segregation of the races.

It was following a CIO statement several weeks ago in support of a move to bring about integration of the races in the South that Kena G. Ingle, Montgomery CIO leader, announced his resignation and issued a statement denouncing the national union for interference in local matters.

27e(2) 1950 Mississippi

8085

And Willie McGee Get Stays Of Execution

WILLIE McGEE WINS ANOTHER TRIAL.—For the third time in nearly five years, Willie McGee, 37, won another temporary stay of execution last week. Scheduled to die on July 27, he won a last-minute stay by court order of U. S. Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton. Justice Burton's order postpones any action by the authorities in Mississippi until after the Supreme Court reconvenes in October. McGee, shown here in his cell in the county prison at Laurel, Miss., was taken to an unannounced destination to safeguard him from probable attack.—News Press Service.

U. S. Supreme Court Justice Saves Doomed Man From Mississippi Death

By ALICE A. DUNNIGAN

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton issued an order last Wednesday granting a 90-day stay of execution to Willie McGee, the young Negro father who was scheduled to die in the electric chair in Jackson, Miss., on the following day for the alleged rape of a white woman.

The stay resulted from a 24-hour plea made to top government official in Washington by a delegation from the Civil Rights congress coming from various sections of the country.

Aug 4 -50

As a last resort, Mrs. Rosalee McGee, in a desperate effort to save her husband, came to Washington to present her case directly to the President of the United States. She brought along a true statement of the case which had never yet been revealed.

Wives Call on President for Aid

Kansas City Mo

Mrs. McGee arrived at the White House around noon on Tuesday accompanied by Mrs. Francis Grayson, the wife of one of the seven Martinsville boys who are also condemned to die for the alleged rape of a white woman in Martinsville, Va. Mrs. Grayson's husband was scheduled to die in the chair on Aug. 4.

These two women were accompanied by their attorney, William Patterson, executive secretary of the CRC, and a small all-white delegation from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington.

Being unable to make an appointment with the President, they came to the White House anyway hoping to have an opportunity to speak with his secretary and to leave prepared statements. When this effort failed, the two soon-to-be widows took seats on the ledge of the fence outside of the White House and remained there until Mrs. McGee was forced to leave to catch a plane back to Mississippi where she hoped to have a last talk with her husband.

Mrs. Grayson and Mr. Patterson remained there all night until the wee hours of the morning on Wednesday. They were visited at intervals by groups of sympathizers who sat with them awhile and supplied them with coffee and sandwiches. While the group sat there before the White House Tuesday afternoon, a cablegram came from Hongkong, China, requesting the President to take some action in the McGee case.

In the meantime the delegates divided themselves into small groups and visited different government officials asking their assistance.

Visits Department of Justice

One group went to the Department of Justice to try and see Atty. Gen. Howard McGrath but this effort proved futile. They were received, however, by the chief of the Civil Rights section of the Department of Justice, Atty. George Triedman. After listening to the facts on the case, the delegation was dismissed and asked to come back within two hours for the decision.

They made the second visit only to be informed that the Justice department found no apparent violation of the civil rights of the defendants that would justify intervention by that department. They did admit however that the Justice department had some doubt in the case but not sufficient doubt to act. They said that many letters and telegrams had been sent to this department which had stimulated activity of the Department to look into the case.

Democrats Asked to Help

Another group went to see Chairman William Boyle of the National Democratic committee. They were unable to see him because of illness but were received by his administrative assistant, Atty. Gratz. Mr. Gratz is alleged to have had a call put through to one of the state legislators in Mississippi to see what could be done on the case but was unable to reach him. They were then referred by the executive assistant of the committee to talk with Cong. Dawson on the situation.

The delegation then went to Capitol Hill to see Cong. Dawson, Sens. Lucas, Lehman, Pepper and Graham but reported that none of them could be reached.

It was apparently the last ray of hope when Attys. Abzug, John Poole of Mississippi and Ralph E. Powe of the District of Columbia walked into the private chamber of Justice Burton on Wednesday noon to present their case on this father of four children.

Grants Stay of Execution

After hearing the pros of the case presented by the defense and the con as presented by R. O. Arrington, assistant to the attorney general of the state of Mississippi, Mr. Justice Burton slowly and deliberately spoke.

"The decision which I am about to make, said he, is no criticism on the courts of Mississippi but in absence of other members of the court this is being done so that the ends of justice shall be stemmed by granting the stay of execution until a petition for a writ of certiorari is disposed of by this court."

Willie McGee is charged with having entered the home of Mrs. Troy Hawkins at Laurel, Miss., in November, 1945, and raped her in bed without disturbing a sleeping child who shared the bed with her. Her husband and two other children who were asleep in an adjoining room testified that they heard no sound on that night.

Mrs. Hawkins testified that she made no noise during the alleged rape because she did not wish to wake her children.

In court she is said to have made no attempt to identify McGee because it was so dark in the room at the time, she said, that she could not see the intruder.

The case has been brought to the Supreme Court twice, and was denied a hearing by the high court in May.

The LOW DOWN ON THE HIGHER UPS

By... FREDERICK SULLENS

Justice Burton, of the United States Supreme Court, must have known that the Willie McGee case had been before that tribunal three times, and he therefore should have been familiar with the story of the crime. He must have known that Willie McGee was being defended by the Civil Rights Congress, which is a Communist organization specializing in attempts to saving from death sentences Negroes charged with capital crimes. He must have known McGee's attorneys were unworthy of belief. And if he knew those things, whatinthehell did he grant a ~~stay of execution~~?

Mob Hysteria Surrounds Willie McGee Case in Mississippi, Attorney Charges

Afro. American Sat. 8-5-50

27e(2) M

Justice of U. S. Supreme Court Had to Stay Execution; Lawyers Beaten in State Capital

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Mob hysteria surrounds the entire Willie McGee case in Mississippi, according to one of the lawyers fighting to save him from the electric chair for the alleged criminal attack on a white woman at Laurel Miss., in November, 1945.

Twelve hours before his scheduled execution in Mississippi, McGee was granted a stay of execution by Justice Harold H. Burton of the United States Supreme Court. McGee was scheduled to go to the electric chair at 12:01 a.m., July 27.

In granting the stay of execution, Justice Burton explained that he was not criticizing any court, but he felt that "justice can best be served by granting a stay." The 37-year old McGee has been convicted three times by Mississippi courts.

State High Court Falters

His first conviction was reversed by the Mississippi Supreme Court on the ground that it was prejudicial error for the trial judge not to have transferred the trial from Forest County because of the spirit of mob violence and passion which surrounded the case.

The second conviction was reversed by the same court because of a finding that colored persons had been systematically excluded from jury duty in the county adjoining Forest County, where the second trial was held.

8-5-50

McGee's third conviction was affirmed by the Mississippi Supreme Court, and the United States Supreme Court refused to review the judgment of convicton.

Governor Refuses Clemency

A pettion for a stay of execution was filed in the United States Supreme Court, last Wednesday, after Gov. Fielding L. Wright of Mississippi had refused to grant executive clemency.

The petition filed here alleged that McGee was convicted without due process of law, that intimidation of his lawyer resulted in the convicted man being deprived of the effective assistance of counsel and that the conviction was obtained through the use of perjured testimony.

The stay of execution granted by Justice Burton will remain in effect until the court passes on a petition for review of the case. Lawyers for McGee have 90 days in which to file such a petition.

Attorneys Attacked Mobs

Mrs. Bella S. Abzug, a New York lawyer retained by Mrs. Rosalee McGee wife of the condemned man Thursday, charged that a mob of 15 men ad attacked John R. Poole wite lawyer of Jacoson, at the airport there July 25, just before he boarded a plane to come to Washington to appear before Justice Burton with her and Emanuel Bloch, also of New York.

Rape-Slaying Defendant Bites Chunks Of Flesh From Wrists In Court

Daily News

Mon. 7-31-50

HALIFAX, Va. — (AP) — George Thomas Hailey, 24-year-old farmhand being tried here on a rape-slaying charge, threw the Halifax county circuit court into an uproar today when he began biting chunks of flesh from both of his wrists.

Six state troopers finally brought the defendant under control. Hailey's action came during a brief recess of the court. The recess had to be continued indefinitely while the court waited for a physician to arrive to administer treatment to Hailey.

Hailey went on trial this morning on charges of raping and slaying Marian Lloyd, 12-year-old Halifax county school girl, last February 3. He was brought to Halifax a few minutes before the opening of court from the Southwestern State Hospital at Marion, where he has been under observation.

The defendant's wrists were bleeding badly after he started to bite himself. The extent of his wounds was not determined immediately.

R. G. Bledsoe, one of the court-appointed attorneys for Hailey, moved for continuance of the case on the grounds that he wanted to call a Richmond psychiatrist, Dr. James Asa Shield, to the stand.

Bledsoe told the court that Dr. Shield twice issued reports—in 1941 and again in 1943—to the effect that Hailey was not responsible for his actions. On both occasions, the reports were made while Hailey was serving a term in the state penitentiary at Richmond.

The continuance was refused and the brief recess called.

THEY DESERVED IT — AND MORE

The people of Mississippi have no regrets to express over the physical beatings administered to Aubrey Grossman, organizational secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, Sidney Ordower, who described himself as a radio commentator and Progressive candidate for United States Senator, and Steve Fischer, reporter for The Compass, a Communistic publication, who came to Jackson Tuesday to make pleas in behalf of Willie McGee, thrice-condemned rapist.

Daily News

The only regret to be expressed is that they were not more roughly handled.

They were given a mighty small portion of what they richly deserved.

Fri. 7-28-50

In their harangues before Gov. Wright, Grossman and Ordower insulted every tradition dear to Southern people, made slanderous charges against our court officials for which they did not have one word of proof, and conducted themselves like a pair of wild-eyed radicals who have no respect for the land they desecrate by living [illegible].

As for Fischer, the character of the story he writes for the newspaper he represents will fully reveal what sort of critter he is.

By their coming to Jackson, flouting disrespect for our laws and our courts, these men invited trouble, and it is just too damned bad that they didn't get larger doses of what they asked for.

Counsel for Negro Rapist May Turn To U. S. Court Channel

Daily News

By FRANCES BAKER BRIGGS

Petition of Willie McGee's attorneys for a fourth trial was denied Tuesday by Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Harvey McGehee, and counsel for the convicted Negro rapist was expected to try to stay McGee's execution through Federal court or the U. S. Supreme court.

Tues. 7-25-50

McGee is scheduled to die for rape after midnight Wednesday, July 27.

Jackson, Miss

Mrs. Bella Abzug, New York lawyer representing McGee, flew from Jackson to Washington Monday night to "stand by" pending ruling by the State Supreme Court justice.

27e(2)

A check late Tuesday afternoon showed that the attorneys had not filed a motion for a new trial in the Jackson or Hattiesburg divisions of Federal court.

Federal Judge S. C. Mize, contacted by 'phone, said "no action is before my court."

Governor Wright, following a lengthy hearing Tuesday morning in which five men and women pleaded for the "life of this innocent Negro,' said he didn't know when he would announce a decision.

He added:

"I don't know whether I'm going to make any statement, or not."

The hearing was sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress, listed by the Justice Department as a Communist front organization.

All of those testifying admitted they had not read the court records of the three trials in which McGee, Laurel Negro, was convicted of raping a white woman.

Some claimed they had read portions of the record but admitted that what they read was printed either in the leftist newspaper, the Daily Compass, or in Civil Rights publications.

The petitioners based their pleas on the contentions that:

1. Evidence in the three trials was insufficient to convict the Negro.
2. Commutation of sentence would be a good morale builder during the present war crisis.
3. Hundreds of thousands of persons believe the Negro is innocent of the crime of rape.
4. McGee's attorneys were not given an opportunity to present newly-discovered evidence at a hearing held Monday by the chief justice of the supreme court.

Governor Wright conducted the hearing, with Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Harvey McGehee interposing facts concerning the manner in which the courts had dealt with the McGee case.

Aubrey Grossman, organizational secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, who headed the delegation and organized the hearing declared:

"In our opinion, a case like Willie McGee's grows out only of a system of segregation and injustice to the Negro.

"In our opinion the system of segregation will produce such cases inevitably—of innocent Negroes going to their deaths."

He sharply criticized Mississippi for "not permitting Negroes to be qualified voters," and said Mississippi Congressman John Rankin expressed ideas which are "viciously false."

Grossman said that "legal lynchings" were on the increase although the "regular lynchings" might be declining in number.

Governor Wright sharply rebuked the New York lawyer.

"I assume that your group came in good faith to present reasons why I should stay the execution of Willie McGee. You have criticized everything, including the administration of justice in the state of Mississippi. I'm not going to have any more criticism of our courts, of our customs. Stick to this case!"

Although the hearing, hel din the House of Representatives chambers, was orderly with no display of disorder, Governor Wright was forced to exclaim, "You stop!", when Grossman refused to allow Judge McGehee to interpose statements refuting Grossman's claims.

Most emotional of the speakers was Sidney L. Ordower, Chicago radio announcer who stated he was a candidate for U. S. Senator for the state of Illinois.

Admitting that he had not read the court record, Ordower repeated again and again that the evidence was inadequate and that he felt McGee was innocent.

"What do you say to the fact that the grocery truck McGee drove was seen by disinterested persons parked near the house at 4 o'clock in the morning, and that other Negroes testified that earlier in the evening they went with McGee in the truck?'

"What do you say of the fact that McGee pointed out to officers that he entered one of two houses and that one of these houses was that of Mrs.———?"

"What do you say of the fact that McGee explained to officers how he climbed up on the house and cut the light wires?"

"That is all very circumstantial evidence," repeated Ordower.

Judge McGehee demanded:

"Do you recognize that under the American judicial system there must be vested in someone the authority to pass upon whether a confession was freely made?

"This confession was passed upon by two judges — Judge Burkitt Collins in the first trial, and Judge John Stennis, now United States Senator, in the second trial.

"They held that the confession was freely and voluntarily made. The Supreme Court found the evidence to be sufficient to show that the confession was freely and voluntarily made," the chief justice continued.

Youngish, rosy-cheeked Frank Stoll of Madison, Wisc., who called himself an apprentice printer, and a member of the Wisconsin Civil Rights Congress, admitted he knew almost nothing of the facts of the case, but pleaded for a new trial "where there isn't a mob yelling outside.'

White-haired E. F. Bradley, of Chicago, wearing a cap of Chicago Union Labor Post 745, American Legion, asked for a commutation on the grounds that it would "build morale fo. those fighting in Korea, and for those in other countries."

"All you're asking is that the Governor flaunt the laws of the state simply because you feel it to be good public relations to Asia and some other parts of the world," Wright told Bradley.

Wright's statement was greeted by loud applause from the Mississippians who filled most of the seats in the House of Representatives chambers.

The governor asked that the spectators withhold applause, adding that his statement had not been a flippant one.

Dr. Gene Weltfish, New York woman anthropologist urged that the state officials "bethink yourself" about a verdict decided upon "under stress and strain."

She said that McGee had a "loving wife" and was the father of four children, and that in her opinion he was not the type of person to be a rapist.

She added that persons who rape were those suffering from emotional difficulties, and that in few places was rape punishable by death.

"It is your idea that no man should suffer the death penalty for rape?" asked Governor Wright.

"Yes, it is," answered Dr. Weltfish.

Mrs. Winifred Feise, of New Orleans, La., minutely analyzed how she might react to being raped, and declared that in her opinion the Laurel woman had not been raped.

She admitted she obtained her knowledge of the case from the series of articles printed in the aily Compass, leftist newspaper.

Although Governor Wright called the articles "just a pack of lies," stating they "did not have one word of truth in them," Mrs. Feise defended the Compass.

At one point she declared she did not understand why the alleged rape victim ran to a neighbor, rather than to her husband.

"She did go to her husband," answered Governor Wright. "That's the trouble. You read the Compass articles rather than the record."

As Grossman concluded the hearing with an impassioned plea for a new trial Governor Wright stopped him to say:

"I do not blame these people for not knowing very much about the case. I hold your organization responsible because I read the excerpts you took from the Compass and broadcast all over the nation. You have deliberatley misled the people of this country and of foreign countries."

Grossman contended that the Supreme Court tried to see that McGee's attorneys' "get in the middle" of testimony in the hearing on a petition for a fourth trial, so that McGee would be executed during the proceedings.

"That is not true," declared Judge McGehee. He pointed out that McGee's attorneys declined the offer to present any evidence to support a series of charges, and asked that a decision be made on the signed petition with affidavits attached.

About 15 out-of-state persons attended the hearing sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress.

Those who registered in the Governor's office but failed to speak in the hearing included: Pearl S. Starks, of St Louis and Bell Seriff, Hollywood, Calif.

Harry Ramond, of the Daily Worker, Communist newspaper, and Steve Fischer of the Daily Compass were among the newspaper men at the hearing.

Wife of Willie McGee Displays Little Emotion

Daily News

Wed. 7-26-50

Jackson, Miss

Rosalie McGee displayed little emotion Wednesday after she heard the news of her husband's stay of execution by the United States Supreme Court.

She was in a conference at the office of Percy Green, editor of the Jackson Advocate on North Farish street, when news of the stay of execution of Willie McGee was received.

27e(2)

A few minutes later Rosalie, accompanied by two white persons here with the Civil Rights Congress, walked to the Blue Light cafe, 311 N. Farish street, to use the telephone and drink a coke.

Miss

Rosalie's companions identified themselves as Will Hayett, white, of New York, a public relations man writing for the Civil Rights Congress, and Dorothy Cole, white, of Chicago who said she was with the Civil Rights Congress.

The three sat together in a back booth while Rosalie awaited a long distance call. Hayett said she was calling Laurel.

After completing their drinks, the three returned to the office of Percy Green who continued in conference with Aubrey Grossman, civil Rights Congress attorney who was the CRC's chief spokesman at Tuesday's hearing before Governor Fielding L. Wright in the House of Representative's chamber.

A few minutes later, Hayett and Cole left the Jackson Advocate offices in a Negro cab driven by George Stennis.

LAUREL — (Special) — [redacted] saved by U. S. [redacted] justice from execution tonight, was hustled from the Jones county jail late this afternoon, handcuffed to a deputy sheriff.

Daily News

Handcuffed to Preston Royal, the Negro, a convicted rapist, was placed in a Laurel police car and the car "took off," a state highway patrol car falling in behind. The destination was not announced.

Wed. 7-26-50

A stay of execution to Willie McGee, convicted Laurel Negro rapist scheduled to die Thursday, was granted Wednesday by U. S. Supreme Court Justice Burton in Washington.

Jackson, Miss

Supreme Court attaches said Justice Burton's action stays McGee's execution pending an appeal by his attorneys of the Mississippi Supreme Court's refusal Tuesday to grant a writ of error.

McGee's attorneys contended he has been denied constitutional rights because the State Supreme Court denied the writ. They contended they had raised issues which should be tried in a court.

The Negro's attorneys now have the opportunity, court attaches said to present their arguments to the U. S. Supreme Court, probably in October.

27e(2)

He was represented in arguments before Burton Wednesday by Bella Abzug, New York, and John Poole, Jackson. The state was represented by Olney Arrington, assistant attorney general.

Miss

Poole and Mrs. Abzug contended among other things that McGee's attorneys had been threatened and intimidated during his third trial to such an extent that he was in effect deprived of counsel; that he was convicted on false testimony and that prosecution attorneys and witnesses conspired to present perjured testimony.

Assistant Attorney General Arrington told Justice Burton that the Mississippi Supreme Court acted in conformance with state law.

Arrington said the McGee lawyers offered no evidence in support of their allegations and that hence the court could not grant the writ sought. He also contended the allegations raised by the McGee lawyers all had been aired in court.

In granting the stay Justice Burton said his action is not to be construed as any ' criticism of any court.

In Biloxi U. S. District Judge Sidney C. Mize dismissed without prejudice a petition for a writ of habeas corpus brought before him there by McGee's attorneys.

Motion for the dismissal was made by State Attorney General John Kyle who said it was of no point in view of Burton's action.

Mayor Carroll Gartin of Laurel, in Biloxi for the hearing, said when told of the stay of execution that "I am sure the people of Laurel will be law-abiding."

"But everyone is feeling pretty tense about the whole thing."

Gartin obviously was upset over Burton's action.

"They ought to let Stalin and his gang come over here for six months and let those————(Referring to the Civil Rights Congress) go over there for six months," he said. "And that's for publication, too."

Kyl said as far as he knew McGee would be kept in the Jones county jail at Laurel until the case is reviewed.

In Jackson Gov. Fielding L. Wright, who held a two hour hearing Tuesday to allow delegates of the Civil Rights Congress to plead in McGee's behalf, said: "No comment."

It is the second time in 13 months that the United States Supreme Court has snatched McGee from death row within hours of his scheduled execution.

The last time was in June, 1949, when the Negro's attorneys perfected an appeal to the tribunal less than six hours before he was supposed to die. The court later refused to hear the appeal.

SIX ASK CLEMENCY FOR DOOMED NEGRO

New York, NY

Delegates From Civil Rights Congress Makes Pleas to Top Mississippi Officials

Times

By JOHN N. POPHAM

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

JACKSON, Miss., July 25—The Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Mississippi spent two hours today parrying questions in a public hearing with six "visitors" seeking a stay of execution for a Negro convicted of raping a white woman.

Before an orderly crowd of 200 persons in the House of Repreesntatives chamber, Mississippi's top executive and judicial officials permitted a delegation organized by the Civil Rights Congress to present theirr easons for requesting a last-minute reprieve of the death penalty that is scheduled to be carried out soon after midnight tomorrow.

27e(2)

Wed 7-26-50

The dramatic session saw six non-Southerners step to the public address system microphone and urge an act of clemency on the general ground that the South's system of racial segregation "raises an automatic doubt" whether a Negro could receive a fair and impartial trial in a rape case.

None Read Record

The Governor and the Chief Justice drew admissions from each speaker that none had read the full stenographic record of the defendant's three trials, that each was basing his plea on information received from the Civil Rights Congress and on stories in newspapers.

The speakers included a Columbia University professor of anthropology, a Progressive party candidate for United State Senator in Illinois, a Chicago Legionnaire, a Wisconsin war veteran, a New Orleans housewive and the national organization secretary of the Civil Rights Congress.

The pleadings ranged from a warning b ythe anthropologist that a "go-slow policy" should be adopted in cases involving "racial emotions" to an appeal by the Chicago Legionnaire for a "sacrifical" move that would "build up morale for our soldiers in Korea and for our position of world leadership."

Gov. Fielding L. Wright granted the hearing at the request of Aubrey Grossman, national secretary of the congress. It involved the case of Willie McGee, 37-year-old Negro of Laurel, Miss., who was convicted three times in jury trials of raping a white housewife in November, 1945.

Governor Ends Session

Mr. Grossman was principal speaker for the congress, which has been labeled a Communist-front organization by the Department of Justice. He delivered the opening address in tempered language, but two hours later made the closing talk in a shouting voice, and was shaking his finger at Chief Justice Harvey McGehee, when Governor Wright declared, "that's enough" and closed the session.

Mr. Grossman charged that evidence in the rape case was "meager and insufficient," and held that a written confession by the defendant was subject to suspicion.

"Unless you have some reason for wanting Willie McGee to die, what fundamental, human harm can be done by granting a stay of execution so that none can say you have cut of his life?" Mr. Grossman asked.

He said that racial segregation and discrimination "inevitably result in cases like that of Willie McGee." He said it was not "a question of North against South." He said the congress had fought "similar cases" in New Jersey and California.

He criticized Mississippi for not permitting Negroes greater voting privileges and declared that one of its Congressional representatives had repeatedly expressed views about Negroes that were "viciously false."

Justice McGehee then asked Mr. Grossman if he was aware that the first rape trial of Willie McGee had been reversed by the State Supreme Court because of community hysteria and not on its merits, that the second trial was reversed by the United States Supreme Court because Negroes were not called for jury duty and not on its merits, and that the third trial was affirmed by the State Supreme Court on its merits and a final review was denied by the United States Supreme Court.

Justice McGehee further pointed out that after the third trial he personally had arranged that an appeal could be taken over a technicality that developed when the defense lawyers had failed to give appeal notice within the stipulated time.

Other speakers were Dr. Gene Weltfish, the woman professor of anthropology; Sidney L. Ordower, radio commentator of Chicago and Progressive party candidate for United States Senator in Illinois; L. F. Bradley, the Chicago Legionaire; Frank Stoll of Madison, Wis., and Mrs. Winifred Feise, New Orleans housewife.

Governor Wright adjourned the hearing after defending his record for granting death sentence commutations in cases in which he believed the evidence was doubtful, regardless of racial influences. He gave no indication whether he would issue a statement on the hearing for clemency.

Earlier Justice McGehee handed down a decision denying the application of defense lawyers for a stay of execution based on allegations that there had been a conspiracy among prosecuting officials to convict the defendant on perjured testimony.

At a three-hour hearing yesterday before Justice McGehee the defense lawyers had declined to meet the court's request that they offer oral testimony in support of the charges of subornation of perjury. Justice McGehee said he would not grant the remedial writ solely on a petition, and the defense lawyers insisted that they could not divulge the identity of witnesses at this stage because the case had "an inflammatory background."

Willie McGee Granted Governor's Hearing As Execution Nears

Evening Star

Wash. 7-23-50

Washington, D.C.

By the Associated Press

LAUREL, Miss., July 22.—Gov Fielding Wright today consented to a hearing in Willie McGee's fight for his life.

The 37-year-old Negro, thrice convicted of raping a young Laurel white housewife, lost a petition for a new trial earlier in the day when his attorney failed to appear in Circuit Court His electrocution is scheduled for Thursday.

27e(2)

The next step on his behalf will be an open meeting, limited to 10 persons and arranged by the Civil Rights Congress, at the Governor's office in Jackson Tuesday.

Miss.

Gov. Wright told Mrs. Dorothy Cole of Chicago, a member of the congress, he would agree to talk with 10 members. Aubrey Grossman of New York, organizational secretary, then telephoned Gov. Wright to ask if 25 could be present.

Governor Stands Firm.

Gov. Wright replied that 10 was the limit.

Mr. Grossman disclaimed any knowledge of reports that congress members from 10 States are preparing to be in Jackson Tuesday to ask executive clemency for McGee.

Circuit Judge Burkitt Collins dismissed McGee's petition for a new trial for "lack of prosecution." Judge Collins said McGee's attorney, John Poole of Jackson, in a telephone call from Jackson, "declined to further prosecute the action."

Lawyer Asked Protection.

Mr. Poole had telephoned Gov. Wright and Laurel Mayor Carrol Gartin asking "for protection." He said he feared for his life if he went to Laurel. Both requests were refused.

The Mississippi Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court each threw out one of McGee's first two convictions for the November, 1945, rape. The State Court overruled an appeal from the third verdict and the United States Court refused to hear it.

The Civil Rights Congress has been labeled by the Justice Department and House Committtee on Un-American Activities as a Communist-front organization.

Mississippians Beat Him, Red Fronter Says

Constitution

Thurs.

7-27-50

JACKSON, Miss., July 26—(AP) Detective Paul Stribling said Aubrey Grossman, of New York organizational secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, reported to police he was beaten in his hotel room Wednesday.

Atlanta, Ga.

Stribling said Grossman reported he was attacked by "five or six" men who piled into his hotel room after he answered a knock.

Stribling said only a small cut had been found on Grossman's forehead and he did not appear seriously injured.

Grossman was chief spokesman for a Civil Rights Congress delegation which appeared before Gov. Fielding Wright here Tuesday seeking a stay of execution for Willie McGee, 37-year-old Negro.

27e(2)

The Congress has been designated as a Communist organization by the Department of Justice.

McGee, convicted three times on the same charge of raping a Laurel, Miss., housewife five years ago, was ~~given a last-minute~~ stay of execution by United States Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton in Washington Wednesday. McGee had been scheduled to die in the electric chair in Laurel Thursday.

Mississippi judge raps high court action

News

7-28-50

LAUREL, Miss., July 28—(AP)—Willie McGee missed a date with an electric chair yesterday.

And the Mississippi judge who sentenced him three times for raping a white woman criticized the stay of execution by a U. S. Supreme Court justice.

Circuit Court Judge F. Burkitt Collins, declared here yesterday he knew of "no law or precedent" for the acts of Justice Harold Burton of the U. S. Supreme Court in granting the stay Wednesday.

He said he had been asked repeatedly by what authority Justice Burton acted.

McGee, thrice convicted for an attack on a Laurel housewife in 1945, was returned to a Jackson jail yesterday. His first two convictions were overruled on technicalities by the Mississippi Supreme Court.

The judge said in his statement the U. S. Supreme Court in reviewing McGee's conviction once before, had found "no reversible errors in the record."

Ala.

27e(2) 1950 Mississippi

8087

Protests Win Stay for McGee

By Mel Fiske

WASHINGTON. – Willie McGee was saved from the electric chair for the fourth time this week.

Worker Jun. 7-30-50

McGee's execution was halted by Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton at 1:05 p.m. Wednesday, just 11 hours before McGee was to be electrocuted in Laurel, Mississippi.

New York, N.Y.

Burton heard the last minute pleas of Civil Rights Congress attorneys John H. Poole, of Jackson, Miss., and Mrs. Bella Abzug, of New York, for an hour in his Supreme Court chambers, and then declared:

27e(2)

"The ends of justice shall be served by granting a stay of execution until a petition for a writ of certiorari is disposed of by this court."

His order was transmitted immediately to Mississippi Gov. Fielding Wright and the State Attorney General.

Court officials said McGee's attorneys have 90 days in which to file the petition for review. If the petition is filed before 90 days, the court can announce its ruling any day after Oct. 9 when the fall term begins.

Disheveled and weary after an all-night flight from Jackson, Miss., where he had been beaten by 15 hodlums before boarding the plane for Washington, Attorney Poole dashed into the Supreme Court to make his eleventh hour appeal to Burton. He pointed to the "bumps and bruises" on his head as evidence of the mob violence that had been stirred up to put McGee to death.

Poole's all-night flight, and an all-night vigil by Mrs. Josephine Grayson, wife of one of the Martinsville Seven who are scheduled to be executed in Richmond, Virginia, and William Patterson, Civil Rights Congress executive secretary, before the White House, climaxed a worldwide campaign to save McGee and the Martinsville Seven.

★

BURTON had received the appeals of the Civil Rights Congress attorneys Tuesday, and spent Wednesday morning reading the petitions and the decisions of Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Harvey McGehee handed down Monday.

It was on the basis of the McGehee decision that Burton granted the stay of execution. He said "the court is familiar, very familiar," with the McGee case. He referred to the Court's double denial of review to McGee in 1949 and 1950.

He added that it was not up to him to grant a petition for a review of the case. "The issue here is a stay of execution to prevent the question from becoming a moot question."

In his private chambers were three Civil Rights Congress attorneys, Poole, Mrs. Abzug and Ralphe Rowe, young Washington Negro attorney, R. O. Arrington, Mississippi assistant attorney Attorney general, a court clerk and two reporters.

★

MRS. ABZUG told of the attempt to lynch McGee several years ago. She added to Poole's story of the State Police and court method of chasing Poole out of the courtroom before he could make a final plea to the jury in McGee's third trial.

They said they did not want to have their witnesses intimidated by Mississippi authorities, something that was bound to happen once the new evidence was submitted. They said that Justice McGehee told them he was powerless to halt the execution.

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BURTON ACCORDINGLY ordered McGee's execution halted until the Supreme Court could decide the validity of McGehee's ruling.

His order was taken to Jackson by the State's Assistant Attorney General who had vilified Poole and Mrs. Abzug in his brief argument before Burton. Arrington told Burton that none of the other attorneys who defended McGee in his two previous trials ad raised such issues as had Poole.

He brushed aside Pole's story of the attack against him in the Jackson airport. "Let's assume he gets in trouble here in Washington. What's that got to do with McGee?" he said.

He stressed Mississippi's sovereignty in law. He explained that "in our state" certain legal procedure is adhered to and one of them was the basis for Justice McGehee's decision.

8087

Attacks On Civil Righters 'Provoked For Propaganda', Charge 3 State Officials

Here is the text of the statement issued Wednesday night by Governor Fielding L. Wright, Chief Justice Harvey McGehee and Attorney General John Kyle on the Willie McGee case:

'In view of the distorted statements which have been made by some sections of the press with reference to the Willie McGee case we, as Governor, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Attorney General of Mississippi, feel it is time that the entire controversy be placed in its proper light.

"Willie McGee was convicted three times, each time by a different jury, of the crime of rape which requires a death penalty in our state if all 12 jurors agree on it. His last execution sentence was stayed in Washington today (Wednesday) by Justice Harold Burton.

"McGee's first two convictions were reversed on legal technicalities. Once because the Mississippi Supreme Court felt he should not have been tried in the town which was the scene of the crime. The second was reversed, also by the Mississippi Supreme court, because it found alleged discrimination against Negroes in the jury panel.

"His last conviction was upheld when the case was judged on its merits.

"McGee's execution date, after his last conviction, was set almost at the legal time limit, giving his attorneys every chance to take whatever steps they chose.

"It was not until this time had nearly expired that they acted, seeking a new writ of error.

"The Department of Justice of the United States has branded the Civil Rights Congress of New York as a Communist organization. That congress has been the mainstay of McGee's defense. It has used every means at its command, and they are numerous, to delay the orderly administration of justice in this state.

"The Congress knew time was running out but it was not until six days before McGee was to die that it suddenly announced it could prove McGee was convicted on perjured testimony and that the state's attorneys had participated in a conspiracy to convict him.

"Since then there have been reports of threats of violence, fear of violence, actual violence—all made by representatives of what the Department of Justice calls a Communist-front group or those associated with them.

McGee's attorneys claimed they could not appear in court in Laurel because they feared physical violence. Their supporting claims were disputed by witnesses.

"They told our Supreme Court that their witnesses were scared to appear in open state court. They refused repeated offers to hear their evidence and protect their witnesses.

"In Biloxi today (Wednesday) they had no witnesses present, even though those witnesses would then have been under the automatic protection of the United States government.

"We heard the representatives of the Civil Rights Congress ask clemency for McGee Tuesday. Their statements, and particularly those of Mr. Aubrey Grossman, their chief spokesman, were calculatedly made to antagonize the people of the South.

"Mr. Grossman insulted every tradition of the South, every court, every judge, and every officer of the state of Mississippi.

"He did it deliberately, provokingly, as is the accepted process in his organization's operations.

"Last night a New York Compass reporter was reported attacked at our railroad station. Later a member of the delegation was said to have been mauled at our airport.

(The reporter of the New York Daily Compass was Stephen Fischer. The delegation member was Sidney Ordower of Chicago, a radio commentator and Progressive Party candidate for U. S. Senator from Illinois).

"Today Mr. Grossman told police he was assaulted in his hotel room by six or eight men.

None of them were more than slightly injured.

"We do not know if the people who made these attacks were from Jackson, or even from Mississippi.

"These attacks are being thoroughly investigated. Our authorities are handicapped, however, by the failure of any of the victims to give any sort of description of their assailants.

"The Governor of Mississippi went personally to Mr. Grossman's hotel room this (Wednesday) morning after he had been told, in a telegram from New York, that he was "barricaded in his room by a Jackson mob." This was not true. Mr. Grossman was offered the personal protection of the Governor if he was in such fear that he wished to leave immediately.

"It was refused.

"It is our considered opinion that the events of the past 36 hours were provoked for their propaganda effect.

'From the actions of these persons who have pleaded for Willie McGee—and only two of them by their own admission had even bothered to familiarize themselves with the true facts—we are convinced that they are more interested in racial strife and civil strife than they are in justice of any kind, legal or moral."

Wright In DeltaSpeech Blasts 'Civil Righters'

Daily News Jackson Miss. [illegible] 7-50

CLEVELAND—(Special)—Speak- before the Cleveland Exchange Club Gov. Fielding Wright of Mississippi Thursday said the Civil Rights Congress which supplied the money and the brains to halt the scheduled execution of convicted Laurel Negro rapist Willie McGee, as "the slimiest and ~~filthiest group~~ I have ever had to deal with."

Attorneys representing the Congress, termed by the Justice Department to be a Communist front organization, Wednesday were successful when Justice Burton of the United States Supreme Court at Washington granted the stay.

Gov. Wright, who originally had intended to speak on another subject, told an audience of about 150 that the events which had transpired were such "that they should be told to this club and to the people of the United States."

He said he was going to stand on his Constitutional rights and that he was "not only sick and tired" of what had taken place but that he was angry at the "ridicule fostered on the people of Mississippi by the Civil Rights Congress."

Wright stated that he had received 15,834 letters and telegrams from all over the world "demanding that I free McGee."

Some of them came, he said from Communist China, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Finland.

He said that the telegrams restated that "the Chinese people protest the killing of an innocent Negro worker."

Wright said he had studied the facts in the McGee case and that "I know he is guilty." He said that the "Civil Rights Congress cared nothing for Willie McGee but had planned a program to destroy the judicial system of each and every state."

Wright said the Congress had "28 cases in which they propose to free the Negro defendants, regardless of the facts, and that the United States Supreme Court had passed on all the cases.

He said he had stayed the execution four times, that McGee had been before three juries and two judges, and his case had been before the Mississippi Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court, and that Justice Black (and here he interposed the remark, "and you all know what he is") had held the case six months before he would release it so that a new execution date could be set.

Wright said "the Communists were in hopes that the people of Mississippi would lynch Willie McGee, and therefore hold the courts of Mississippi up to the ridicule of the world."

Governor Wright reported that duing the Jackson conference which he gave the Civil Rights Congress attorneys "that Aubrey Grossman before 15 people shook his fingers at the Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court and said that no court could render fair legal decisions under our system."

Referring to a serial story that the Daily Compass, a Communist publication in New York had run, Wright said he had told the editor "that every word printed in the articles were lies."

He spoke of the happenings at Jackson Wednesday in which Grossman had claimed that he was attacked by several persons in a downtown hotel room. Grossman, he said, protested that he was afraid to leave the hotel.

"I went down to the hotel personally and knocked on Grossman's door, and a woman — I won't say a lady because I had dealt with her before — opened it. I told Grossman that there was no danger of mob violence, and I personally offered to escort him to the state line."

The Willie McGee Case

The Willie McGee case is another of those extremely unfortunate ones into which are thrown all sorts of extraneous elements that serve to divert attention from the only issue which ought to count: was McGee guilty or innocent of the crime with which he is charged? If he is guilty he should be punished. If he is innocent he should go free.

Such statements are so rudimentary that one almost feels foolish in making them. But the case has achieved an unsavory status in which Mississippians express resentment over interference from outside the state and many persons interested in seeing justice done are disturbed at the way events have shaped themselves up.

* * *

Birmingham

Willie McGee, a Negro in his late 30s, has been tried three times on a charge of rape, allegedly committed in 1945. Each trial has ended in conviction. Twice the Supreme Court of Mississippi reversed the convictions on legal technicalities. The third conviction was upheld by the Mississippi high court. The United States Supreme Court refused to review the case. McGee was sentenced to death, the penalty for rape in Mississippi. The execution date was yesterday. At almost the last minute McGee was granted a stay of execution by Justice Harold Burton of the United States Supreme Court. The justice explained that he was not criticizing any court, but that in his opinion "justice can best be served" by granting a stay.

* * *

In the meanwhile men from outside the state of Mississippi have injected themselves into the picture of events. That fact is resented by Mississippi residents and officials. McGee's attorney, Emanuel H. Bloch of New Orleans, said that "the state of Mississippi lives under a reign of terror." An organization known as the Civil Rights Congress, with headquarters in New York, sent a delegation to confer with Gov. Wright. The organization has been listed by the Justice Department as a pro-Communist group. The delegation's spokesman was Aubrey Grossman.

Gov. Wright listened to what Mr. Grossman had to say. In a statement later issued jointly by Gov. Wright, Chief Justice Harvey McGehee and Atty. Gen. John Kyle of Mississippi, Grossman is charged with saying things calculated "to antagonize the people of the South. Mr. Grossman insulted every tradition of the South, every court, every judge and every officer of the state of Mississippi. He did it deliberately, provokingly. . . ."

Grossman later charged that he was attacked by hoodlums in his hotel room. Later the governor went to Grossman's room and offered him his personal protection. Gov. Wright says it was refused. A reporter for the New York *Compass* told Jackson reporters that when he arrived in Mississippi he was assaulted by about 20 men and "got slugged pretty hard." Still a third man, a radio commentator from Chicago, said he too was attacked by a mob of about 15 men.

The official statement from Gov. Wright says that every attempt is being made to apprehend the attackers, but that not one of the three men slugged could give any description of his assailants. The governor says: "We do not know if the people who made these attacks were from Jackson, or even from Mississippi."

The three outsiders claim that police did not come to their help, that police made no attempt to identify the attackers, that they deliberately obscured such evidence as fingerprints.

That is the way the case now stands.

What will be done next to Willie McGee? The defense holds that it has new evidence but that it cannot get a fair trial in Mississippi, that its witnesses are afraid to testify.

Two details stand clear.

Willie McGee has been found guilty. If there is more evidence that he is not guilty, it ought to come at once before the proper authorities. The state of Mississippi, it is certain, does not want to punish an innocent man, but so far as courts are now concerned, McGee is a guilty man.

There was illegal treatment of individuals in Jackson. The men who were slugged were, to say the very least, lacking in tact and judgment. But that is no excuse for what happened to them. The men who beat up, or tried to beat up, the visitors from New York and Chicago, no matter what their background or purpose in being in Mississippi, ought to be apprehended and punished.

MISSISSIPPI GOVERNOR AROUSED BY CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS ACTION

Black Dispatch

Out-Stater Called Communist Agitators Who Seek Freedom for McGhee

JACKSON PAPER WHIPS POPULACE INTO FURY

JACKSON, Miss. — (ANP) — A loud hue and cry is being raised within the city over the proposed visit to Gov. Fielding H. Wright by a 30-40 man delegation of the Civil Rights congress on Tuesday, July 25. Even Gov. Wright has put in his own bit about the "wild-eyed. howling mob of Communists and sympathers gathered by the Civil Rights congress."

27e(2)

The delegation, according to William Patterson, CRC secretary, will seek gubernatorial intervention into the case of Willie McGee, who faces the electric chair in three days for the crime of raping a white woman. McGee has been convicted three times on the charge, and the U. S. Supreme court has denied an appeal.

Sat. 8-5-50

First indication of the "preparedness" of the city against the coming of the CRC group came from Police Chief Joel D. Holden, who said the entire force has been alerted for the arrival of the delegation. The congress has been listed by the justice department and the house un-American activities committee, as being a Communist front organization.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Holden issued a bulletin cancelling all vacations or off-days on Tuesday and putting the personnel on a 24-hour basis subject to call in the event of an emergency.

Gov. Wright issued a statement Wednesday, saying he would not "tolerate" efforts by the group "to wage a save-McGee-demonstration in Mississippi. He advised "all outsiders' 'to "stay at home and mind their own business." He added, "A word to the wise should be sufficient."

An editorial appearing in the white Jackson Daily News, under the title, "Communists Coming Here," refers to a statement made by the Rev. N. D. Harris, chairman of the Dallas CRC unit.

"Rev. N. D. Harris, Negro . . . has issued an inflammatory statement saying that 1,000 members of that organization (CRC) have been ordered to mobilize in Jackson to demonstrate against the electrocution of Willie McGee. This is no doubt a gross exaggeration by a loose-lipped Negro.

"'This is not just a fight for the life of one Negro, but a fight for the lives of 15,000,000 Negroes,' says Harris.

"Our first best piece of advice to this loud-mouthed racial agiator is this:

"' Jackson will be the finest place on earth for you to stay away from next Tuesday.

"For sublomated gall, tripleplated audacity, bold insolence and down-right arrogance, this proposed invitation . . . by a gang of Communists truly passes all comprehension."

Further down, the editorial claims that the idea is "not the mere saving of Willie McGee from a deserved death, but to overthrow all semblance of law and order in our state and nation."

"The Daily News does not believe Gov. Wright intends to interfere with the death sentence . . . or that he can be persuaded to do so by these enemies of our government."

Wright said that if "a responsible delegation of reasonable size desires to seek a hearing in a orderly and sane manner, to petition the governor, well and good." He did not say whether he would intervene to commute or postpone the carrying out of sentence.

"The governor will be acting quite properly and in accordance with overwhelming public opinion if he slams the executive door in the face of these impudent and lawless invaders and tell them this:

"'Get the hell out of here!'"

"Furthermore," the editorial continued, "if any hotel in Jackson furnishes shelter for this motley crew during their brief visit in Jackson—and it should be made mighty brief—then that hostelry should have the rooms they occupy thoroughly cleansed with the most powerful disinfectants.

"Carbolic acid and concentrated lye, combined with DDT, will hardly be adequate for the purpose."

Mississippi to Hold Hearing for Negro

Herald Tribune

Sun. 7-23-50

Governor to Meet Ten in Doomed Man's Defense

LAUREL, Miss., July 22 (AP).—Governor Fielding Wright consented today to a hearing in Willie McGee's fight for his life.

The thirty-seven-year-old Negro, thrice convicted of raping a young Laurel white housewife, lost a petition for a new trial earlier in the day when his attorney failed to appear in Circuit Court. His electrocution is scheduled for Thursday.

27e(2)

New York, N.Y.

The next step in his behalf will be an open meeting, limited to ten persons and arranged by the Civil Rights Congress, at the Governor's office in Jackson, Monday.

Governor Wright told Mrs. Dorothy Cole, of Chicago, a member of the congress that he would agree to talk with ten members.

The petition charged that a conspiracy existed among prosecuting attorneys and witnesses to convict the Negro on perjured testimony.

The Mississippi Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court each threw out one of McGee's first two convictions for the November, 1945, rape. The state court overruled an appeal from the third verdict and the Federal Court refused to hear it.

A Sad Commentary On American Politics

Enterprise-Journal

(An Editorial)

Mon. 8-7-50

By OLIVER EMMERICH

McComb, Miss.

The purpose of this editorial is to show how radical leadership outside the South seeks to arouse people of other sections in their campaigns of hate, vilification and abuse.

Willie McGee was charged with assaulting a Laurel white woman and was thrice tried. In each trial he was found guilty. There is no shadow of doubt as to his guilt. He was even tried by a Mississippi jury which was composed of both white and colored jurors. Representatives of his own race found him guilty. The Negro American Legion post of Laurel passed a resolution in which it frowned upon the offense of 37-year-old Willie McGee, the rapist.

27e(2)

That crowd representing themselves as members of the "Civil Rights Congress," an organization declared by the attorney general of the United States to be a Communist-front group moved into Jackson in a grandstand attempt to grab the headlines of anti-Southern newspapers, and heralded themselves as champions of justice. They returned to New York. Now read what the New York "Amsterdam News" says on the subject:

> **"Saturday, the Civil Rights Congress sponsored two mass rallies in Harlem on behalf of McGee. The condemned man's wife, Mrs. Rosalie McGee, addressed rallies at 102nd Street and Second Avenue and at 126th Street and Lenox Avenue. Other speakers including William L. Patterson, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, were heard."**

Now try to imagine what was said at these rallies and ask yourself a few questions:

1: What good could rallies in New York do Willie McGee in jail in Mississippi?

2: What was the purpose of these street rallies?

3: Were these speakers upholding law and order or were they not sanctioning one of the most serious crimes in the category of human offense?

4: Was this not a sham to have the wife of a man who committed rape to be upholding the crime and denouncing a state that refused to sanction it?

5: Is it not apparent that the sponsors of these street rallies had taken this Rosalie McGee to New York just as P. T. Barnum in his heyday used circus tactics to fool the American public?

6: Is this not obvious to the minds of the South that all of this comedy of errors is a stage play to arouse the political support of Harlem voters . . . And isn't it plain to everyone that this kind of grandstand stuff provides a real opening for the political demagogues?

7: But basically isn't it clear that such demonstrations are not made in the interest of the good Negroes of the South but that such demonstrations do a real harm to our Negroes? Obviously such demonstrations thwart the progress of the good Negroes not only of Mississippi but of the nation as a whole.

Once again we point out that the Civil Rights Congress is seeking to have Congress enact the so-called civil rights bills. The members of this organization want to defame the South so that they can influence congressmen and senators from sections to vote with them. They are seeking to block the work of Congressman John Bell Williams, Senators Eastland and Stennis and other Southern legislators. The thing they covet most is a hot-headed outbreak in the South. Frankly we think our people are too smart to explode and that they are too loyal to our Southern congressmen and senators to let them down.

Enterprise-Journal

Let us not forget, ladies and gentlemen, that our own National Democratic Party is as much responsible for this state of affairs as any other institution in the nation....And these minority groups outside of the South continue as a powerful bloc within the Democratic Party and dictated policies that are contrary to the interest of the people of the South—all the people, white and black.

Mon. 8-7-50 27 C(2)

The people of Mississippi should be proud of the fact that Governor Fielding Wright is using his head and that his associates are not losing their heads. The whole game is to make the governor mad, the people mad, the courts mad. What that crowd is trying to stir up is evidence of community lawlessness to drag into Congress when next the civil rights bills are proposed ....And don't forget, they will be heard again in the halls of the next Democratic National Convention.

McComb, Miss.

Our own Negroes would prove themselves to be fools, indeed, if they should permit this crowd in this Communist-front organization to suck them into this farce. These demagogues who are parading Willie McGee's wife over Harlem don't give a tinker's dam about the fate of Willie McGee. He's being used for so much fish bait and what that crowd is fishing for is suckers. We do not think that our white people, or our Negroes, will be sucked into this obvious trap.

It is, indeed a sad commentary on the American nation when we observe the tremendous political power that this crowd of outsiders has upon the politics of the country.

POOLE WITHDRAWS AS M'GEE LAWYER

Times-Picayune

Blisters Civil Rights Congress in Statement

Thurs.

(The Associated Press)

8-17-50

New Orleans, La.

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 16—John Poole of Jackson quit Wednesday as attorney for Willie McGee, convicted Negro rapist, and blamed the Civil Rights Congress for his withdrawal from the case.

In a prepared statement, Poole said he "felt compelled to withdraw" as McGee's counsel "in view of the circumstances that have arisen" in the last few weeks. "I was employed to represent McGee," Poole said, "not the Civil Rights Congress."

27 C(2)

Four attorneys in Laurel, where McGee has been convicted three times of raping a white housewife in 1945, have brought disbarment charges against Poole. The State Bar Association has asked Poole to file an answer to the charges, which grew out of the McGee case.

Poole represented the Laurel Negro at a hearing before United States Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton, who granted a stay in execution only 14 hours before McGee was to have been executed July 27. The high court previously had refused to review the case.

In his statement, Poole said he had nothing to do with statements or actions of the Civil Rights Congress delegation which came to Jackson July 25. The delegation, headed by Aubrey Grossman of New York, came to plead for McGee's life in an open hearing before Gov. Fielding Wright.

The US department of justice has listed the congress as a Communist front organization.

"As a matter of fact," Poole said, "I strongly object to the action of its members when they were in Jackson."

He branded as "unfounded and untrue" charges made by one of the delegation that the chief justice of the state supreme court was prejudiced against Negroes. "Our supreme court has amply demonstrated its desire to render justice regardless of a man's creed or the popularity of his case," Poole said.

Here is the text of Poole's statement:

"In view of the circumstances that have arisen in the Willie McGee case in the past few weeks I feel compelled to withdraw from the defense, and to give a statement of my position in the matter.

"This action is not taken because of any fear of reprisal, but because of my objection to the activities of the Civil Rights Congress which is sponsoring the defense.

"During the first part of this year I made a contract to represent McGee in what further proceedings that I considered necessary to give him the full benefit of all the law of the land. At that time I did not know that the Civil Rights Congress would come to Jackson to stage the demonstration they did. I was employed to represent McGee—not the Civil Rights Congress—and when this group did come to Mississippi I found myself under a duty to fulfill my contract, even at the expense of jeopardizing my own name and reputation.

"I am not a member of the Civil Rights Congress and I am not associated with it in any manner whatsoever. As a matter of fact I strongly object to the actions of its members when they were in Jackson.

Judge Discloses New Details Of McGee Raid Here

Daily News

27e(2) Miss

Chief Justice Harvey McGehee, of the Mississippi Supreme Court, in an address before the Lion's Club of Jackson Friday, brought out several new facts concerning the Willie McGee case and the raid on Jackson staged by members of the Civil Rights Congress to save the condemned Negro rapist from the electric chair.

The most startling fact brought out in Justice McGehee's address was that Aubrey Grossman, attorney for the Civil Rights Congress, actually had the audacity to go to Joseph Brown, United States district attorney for the Southern district, and demand that Mr. Brown get in touch immediately via phone with President Truman and request him to ask some justice of the United States Supreme Court to grant a stay of execution to Willie McGee. Mr. Brown promptly refused, saying that such an act would be impudence on his part.

Justice McGehee took a shot at Associate Justice Burton, of the United States Supreme Court, for granting a stay of execution and added that he cannot see how, if the Supreme Court follows its own decisions, it can fail to again deny Willie McGee a new hearing.

Lies of Willie's Wife

Justice McGehee told how the Civil Right's Congress transported Willie McGee's wife on a plane to New York to appear before a "Save Willie McGee" mass meeting and of an interview she gave to the Daily Compass, a Communist paper, in which she said that her husband was confined in a "sweat box" in the Hinds jail for 14 hours in order to obtain a confession, and that he confessed only to keep from smothering to death, when in truth and in fact Willie McGee confessed his crime of rape on the same day of his arrest. Furthermore, there is no "sweat box" in the Hinds county jail, and the cell used for solitary confinement of prisoners is large and airy. McGee was placed in solitary confinement after he had led a murderous assault on Jailer Harris, staged for the purpose of escape.

The "Save Willie McGee" demonstration staged in Times Square, New York," said the speaker, was attended by about one thousand persons, and was dispersed by the police.

Willie McGee's wife also said, in the Daily Compass interview, that she had been placed in the state's electric chair, thoroughly strapped, and told that was what was going to happen to her husband unless he confessed. That was plain falsehood.

A Shake-Down Game

The Civil Rights Congress, said Justice McGehee, claims 600,000 members, has collected large sums of money from the ignorant and credulous by stirring up sympathy for Willie McGee, but the truth is that its leaders are not in reality interested in saving the condemned Negro's wife. What does much concern them is the collection of funds from the public and it is doubtful whether the CRC has spent two per cent of the money it has collected "in behalf of Willie McGee," meaning specifically payment made to lawyers in this state who have served as defense attorneys.

"The Civil Rights Congress has persistently waged a campaign of malicious falsehood against the people of Mississippi and its public officials and its courts," said the speaker. "I have personally received 1,100 communications on this subject, many of them of a highly insulting character, and I know Gov. Wright has received at least 15,000 similar letters, telegrams and telephone calls. The whole purpose of the organization is to stir up strife and dissention. It seeks to overthrow our courts and create discord and lack of respect for law in the public mind.

Started At Philadelphia

Justice McGehee did not mince words in attributing much of this "Mississippi invasion" to what happened at the Democratic national convention in Philadelphia when Southern delegates were insulted by offensive clauses written into the party platform.

"I recently heard Gen. Eisenhower deliver an address before the American Bar Association on the subject of civil rights, and after listening to that great soldier, statesman and educator I could easily understand why he refused to allow his name to be considered for either Democratic or Republican candidacies for President," said Judge McGehee.

In conclusion Justice McGehee said:

"In these trying days when our nation is in peril at the hands of national leaders who would sacrifice, upon the altar of political expediency, the greatest constitutional form of government that ever existed in all the annals of history, it must be apparent to every thoughtful citizen of America that the courts, and the courts alone—if constitutional government is to be saved at all—must be looked to as the great conservative force and final arbiter between those contending forces on the one hand that would take over our local police powers and state court procedures and those on the other who would preserve and maintain the form of government ordained and established by those true American patriots who brought this nation into being.

In the Courts, there must be anchored the confidence and the faith of the people in the just administration of our laws. However passion and prejudice may kindle into flame in other arenas, here, at least, serene amid tumult, unawed by power and unmoved by public clamor, the judiciary must be and remain fearlessly independent.

May the Supreme Judge of all the earth give unto us

"Large knowledge and keen vission to discern,
Amid the tangled forest of the law
The threadlike path of justice, skill to strike
The subtle line of cleavage twixt the truth
And that which masks and apes the truth;
Supreme intent to see and do the right
And weigh out justice with an even hand."

27e(2)

Time For Marching

Maj. Frederick Sullens, editor of the Daily News, followed Justice McGehee in a short address in which he showed the close connection between the Civil Rights Congress and the forces of Communism in this nation.

"While our soldiers are fighting Communism in Korea we had better be doing better fighting of Communism at home," said Maj. Sullens. "There is quite too much apathy, indifference and lack of morale among our people. We must wake up to the fact that Communism and Christianity cannot exist together in this country. In fact, Communism and Christianity cannot exist in the same world. It is high time for us to start singing. "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and sing it in dead earnest."

Gov. Fielding Wright followed in a brief address, praising the splendid summary of the McGee case made by Justice McGehee.

"I can't trust myself to make a short talk on the subject," said the Governor. "It would take me at least an hour to outline what is in my mind to say."

REPORT WILLIE McGEE'S ATTORNEY QUITS CASE

By JAMES B. LaFOURCHE,

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)— Forced to abandon his client who was granted a stay of execution last month, John Poole, Jackson attorney for Willie McGee, convicted on an alleged rape charge, withdrew from the case.

He said that he "felt compelled to withdraw" as McGee's counsel "in view of the circumstances that have arisen" in the last few weeks.

"I was employed to represent Willie McGee," Poole said, "not the Civil Rights Congress."

Disbarment charges against Poole are being heatedly pushed by four attorneys. The State Bar association has asked Poole to file an answer to the accusations growing out of the McGee case.

It was Poole who represented McGee before U. S. Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton, when granted a stay of execution 14 hours before the time set for the doomed man's death.

Poole, hotly interrogated concerning his alleged association with subversives, said that he is not, and never was a member of the CRC. He further stated that "I strongly object to the action of its members when they were in Jackson."

27e(2)

He said that charges made against the chief justice of the state supreme court were unfounded. In defense of the court he said: "Our supreme court has amply demonstrated its desire to render justice regardless of a man's creed or the popularity of his case."

The entire text of Poole's statement reads: "In view of the circumstances that have arisen in the Willie McGee case in the past few weeks, I feel compelled to withdraw from the defense and to give a statement of my position in the matter.

Daily World

"This action is not taken because of any fear of reprisal, but because of my objection to the activities of the Civil Rights congress which is sponsoring the defense.

"During the first part of this year I made a contract to represent McGee in what further proceedings that I considered necessary to give him the full benefit of all the law of the land. At that time I did not know that the Civil Rights Congress would come to Jackson to stage the demonstration they did.

27e(2)

"I was employed to represent McGee—not the Civil Rights Congress—and when this group did come to Mississippi I found myself under a duty to fulfill my contract, even at the expense of jeopardizing my own name and reputation.

The presumption is that oil will be added to the fire when an attorney from the North enters the case. It is hinted that another "Scottsboro" is in the making by the withdrawal of Poole.

8090

House Would Allow 10-Year Sentences in Rape Cases

27e(2)

Lighter Penalty Would Aid Convictions, Is Claim

(The Associated Press)

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 23—Rapists in Mississippi Thursday stood a chance of facing only 10-year prison sentences for their crimes.

Present Mississippi law makes either a death or life imprisonment sentence mandatory on conviction.

The Mississippi House of Representatives, however, voted to let trial juries reduce the penalty to "not less than 10 years." Senate approval is necessary.

The juries could impose the death sentence if they believed it justified.

Fri 2-24-50

Wednesday the House approved medical treatment for sex criminals found insane by a court appointed medical board. That measure, however, did not affect the state's rape statutes.

The bill skipped through a brief but sharp debate between Rep. Noel Monaghan of Lee county and Rep. W. L. Sims of Lowndes.

Monaghan, author of the measure, announced it had been drawn and introduced at the request of the Lee county district attorney.

"There are a great many cases where it is impossible to obtain a conviction for rape because the penalty is too severe," Monaghan declared. "This bill will, I believe, make it easier."

The statement brought Sims to his feet with the charge "that most district attorneys are interested only in convictions anyway.

"That's their theory," he exclaimed. "If they can't get a conviction for the death penalty they'll take a conviction for a year in jail. It makes their records look better."

Monaghan denied Sims' charge, adding: "The man who asked me to introduce this bill doesn't operate that way."

Home produced products got another boost from the lawmakers when the lower House adopted a policy that all governmental departments should buy Mississippi products when price and quality are comparable.

Introduced by Rep. Boyce Holleman of Stone county, it reiterates a former policy declaration, but adds tung nuts and resin to the list.

Rep. Bill Andrews of Lamar county persuaded the House to add a reminder to boards of supervisors that asphalt made from Mississippi oil should be used on roads built under the recently approved rural roads program.

Teachers who have been in classrooms for 30 years were made eligible for immediate retirement under another House-approved measure. The present law makes them wait until they are 60, regardless of teaching years.

Rep. Elmer McCoy, chairman of the House education committee, said it would not add to the cost of the retirement plan. Rep. Jack Stuart of Pearl River county added it would aid school children by letting counties hire younger instructors.

Both Houses were in recess Thursday morning as members attended funeral services for Attorney General Greek L. Rice.

The Senate finance committee, however, found time to vote down Sen. C. A. Hillman's proposal for a 5 per cent sales tax. Hillman had proposed the measure "as the answer to all the state's financial problems."

The Senate fees and salaries committee endorsed a bill increasing future governors' salaries from $10,000 to $15,000 a year, and a $1000-a-year salary boost for welfare commissioner W. F. Bond. He now gets $5000.

The House ways and means committee okayed Rep. J. A. Thigpen's bill raising license tag fees from the $15-$35 range to between $18 and $55. It abolishes the present ad valorem taxes on the vehicles.

Another House bill passed Thursday authorizes coroners to order autopsies in deaths where criminal means are suspected. He must have written authority from the county or district attorney.

SEX CRIMINAL IS OBJECT OF HOUSE MEASURE

Enterprise Journal

Severe Penalties Are Provided To Guard State's Children From Violators

APPLIES TO BOTH SEXES

27e(2) Miss

JACKSON, Feb. 23.—Sex crimes against children would be punishable with stiff penalties under a bill passed Wednesday in the Mississippi House of Representatives.

McComb Miss.

Provisions were included in the bill for the treatment of certain violators.

Unanimous approval was given the bill disigned to provide additional safeguards for children in a period when these crimes are rampant and sex maniacs are ranging the country.

Thurs 2-23-50

Representative Brinkley Morton of Tate County handled the sex crime bill before the House, stating it had been drafted by Circuit Judge M. M. McGowan of Jackson. It carries penalties from 3 to 15 years in the state penitentiary, and will permit prosecution of assertedly known sex serverts who cannot be handled under existing statutes.

Procedure Outlined

The act applies to both males and females.

After a person is found guilty under the proposal, sent to the Senate for its consideration, he is examined by two doctors to determine whether insanity is involved.

If acquitted because of insanity, the person is sent to the State Mental Hospital for treatment, and cannot be released except by order of the circuit judge.

"This bill clearly defines what a sex criminal is, and sets down what constitutes overt acts to commit such crimes," Representative Morton explained. "I believe this law will prevent many serious crimes from being committed. Unless we pass this bill, we are leaving the door wide open for some young boys and girls to be subjected to some very awful crimes."

Visits to Condemned Man Cost Mrs. McGee Her Job

Afro-American, Sat. 4-29-50
Baltimore, Md.

JACKSON, Miss.—The wife of Willie McGee, whose appeal for a review of his ~~death sentence~~ for an alleged criminal assault is now before the Supreme Court, is being denied work here because she insists on visiting her husband, the Prisoners' Relief Committee of the Civil Rights Congress has revealed.

27e(2)

The situation was disclosed by Mrs. Rosalee McGee in a letter to the committee. She said, "I had a good job, I mean what you call good here. Soon as the lady found out I was Willie's wife, she didn't want me to get off to go to see him." Because of the woman's attitude, she added, she quit. "And everywhere I would go, it seemed like she would beat me there," she continued.

The father of four children, McGee was forced to sign a "confession" by three Mississippi police officers on threats of being turned over to a lynch mob back in Dec., 1945. On two appeals to the State Supreme Court, new trials were ordered. The third conviction was upheld. The U.S. Supreme Court recently refused to review.

Ask No Further Delay in Setting McGee Execution

27e(2) Miss

The State Attorney General sees no need for further delay in setting the execution date for Willie McGee, Laurel Negro sentenced to death for the rape of a white woman.

Greenwood

The attorney general's opinion was set forth in a prepared answer to McGee's attorney's document indicating they would seek a fourth trial in the lower courts for the Negro.

Sat. 6-3-50

The attorney general's answer was filed Friday in the State Supreme court.

The Negro's counsel asked that the State Supreme court withhold action on the ~~attorney general's~~ motion to set a new execution day for McGee, who has just lost an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The attorneys claimed that McGee had been threatened with mob violence during the third trial, and that his attorneys were not allowed to present oral arguments on his behalf for fear of violence to their persons.

They indicated they would file by June 5, a motion for a new trial in Jones county.

The attorney general denied that McGee had been threatened with mob violence. He added that any failure of McGee's attorneys to present their arguments was due to their own negligence, and not to any threat of violence to their persons.

The answer concludes with the opinion that there should be no further delay in setting the execution date.

The State Supreme court may on June 12 act on the motion for a new execution day.

The attorney general's answer was prepared by Assistant attorney General George Ethridge.

Request Message Barrage for Negro Condemned to Die

News
Jun. 6-11-50
Jackson, Miss.

The Civil Rights Congress, an organization of whites and Negroes, has appealed for a barrage of letters, phone calls, and wires to Governor Wright and two local churchmen on behalf of Willie McGee, condemned Laurel negro.

McGee, ~~three times~~ convicted in lower court of the rape of a white woman, has lost appeals to the State and the United States supreme courts. The State Supreme court on Monday may act on a motion of the State Attorney General to set a new execution ~~date~~ for the Negro.

27e(2)

In a mimeographed sheet, the Civil Rights Congress, with headquarters at 205 East 42nd Street New York City, writes it has appealed for "tens of thousands of letters, wires and long distance calls" to Governor Wright.

The congress has also, it adds, suggested wires and letters to "two leading church men in Jackson," Bishop R. C. Gerow, of the Catholic Diocese, and Bishop Duncan Gray of the Episcopal church, asking them to convey messages for executive cemency to the Governor.

Bishop Gerow, contacted here said he had received "several communications" but had done nothing about them since, he said, he did not feel he should interfere with the due process of law.

"It isn't that I am not interested in the Negro people, or in a person condemned to die," he stated.

"But I believe that those concerned in the trial of the case have given it careful consideration, much more careful consideration than I have given it. I know that they are not prejudiced, and I am therefore not taking any part in the case."

Bishop Gray was out of town and could not be reached for a statement.

The Civil Rights Congress news release is titled "My Faith Now in you all'—Willie McGee', and quotes the negro as writing from the "death house."

The circular calls McGee an "innocent negro facing death," and contends that in all three of the lower court trials, the court houses were "surrounded by lynch mobs."

27e(2)

They Framed McGee

Wife of Courts' Negro Victim Gives the Facts

By Arnold Sroog 27e(2) Miss

When Willie McGee, a Negro truckdriver and father of four children, was brought into a Hattiesburg, Miss., court for the third time two years ago and charged with "rape" of a white woman, he never had a chance to be acquitted, his wife, Mrs. Rosalee McGee told a press conference in New York this week.

Up north for a possible tour in her husband's defense, Mrs. McGee was interviewed in the Hotel Theresa, where she gave a graphic picture of the terror and lynch-ridden atmosphere of a Southern town bent on murdering an innocent Negro. A strikingly attractive young woman of 28, Mrs. McGee revealed that since last October she was working as a domestic for a white family in another town under an assumed name.

Worker

5-28

HER HUSBAND was convicted of the frameup rape charge for the third time in March, 1948. Two other convictions had been reversed by the Mississippi Supreme Court because of the flagrantly illegal methods used in the trials. The third trial, however, was upheld both by the Mississippi Supreme Court and the U. S. Supreme Court, despite the terror.

New York, N.Y.

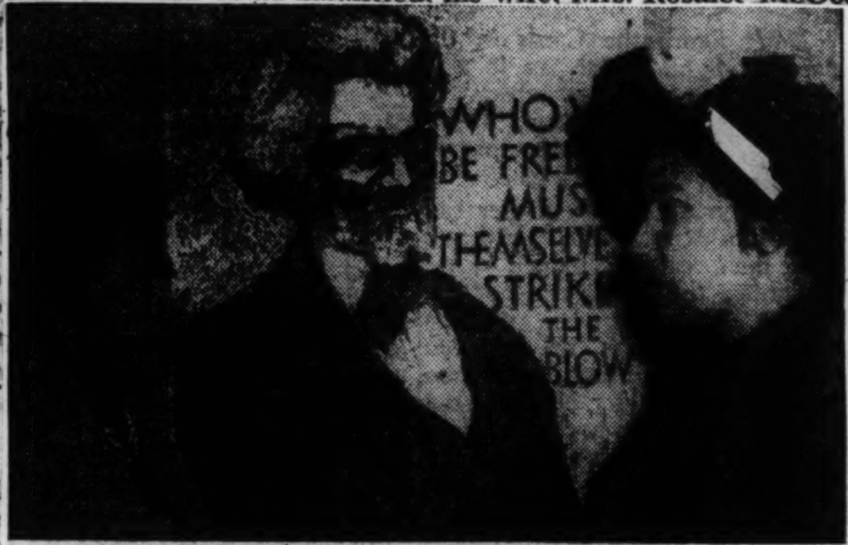
While further legal steps have been planned to save McGee from electrocution, a campaign to secure a stay of execution from Gov. Fielding Wright has been conducted by the Civil Rights Congress, which has defended McGee since 1946.

Details of the tense atmosphere in and around the courtroom during the third trial were revealed briefly by Mrs. McGee, Mrs. Bella Abzug, attorney who is conducting the appeal on constitutional grounds, and William L. Patterson, executive secretary of the CRC.

MRS. McGEE, for example, has no recollection of McGee's two court-appointed attorneys ever having asked him where he was at the time of the so-called rape. McGee told her, she said, that he was "across the river" with several other people at a game with some friends. One of the men who was with McGee refused to testify in his behalf out of fear.

Another witness, a Negro woman, disappeared from the town shortly after McGee's arrest and has not been seen since.

So charged was the atmosphere in the town and in court, that the two defense attorneys, John R. Poole and L. Percy Quinn, were unable to deliver a summary address to the jury in the last trial. They were forced to slip out of the courtroom by the back door while the trial was still in progress in order to avoid lynchers who threatened their lives.



MRS. McGEE and her attorney, Mrs. Bella Abzug.

The prosecutor, Mrs. McGee recalled, several times shouted that her husband was a n---r to the applause of the court. No Negroes were allowed in the courtroom.

The allegedly "raped" woman, Mrs. Troy Hawkins, was asleep with a child in her bed on the night of Nov. 3, 1945, when the "attack" was supposed to have occurred. Her husband and other children were asleep in the next room. Neither the child in bed with her, nor her husband or other children woke up during the alleged "rape."

New Move Slated for Willie McGee

Times-Picayune

(The Associated Press)

New York, June 13—A new legal move is afoot to save Willie McGee, Mississippi Negro facing the electric chair July 27 after being convicted three times of raping a white woman.

27e(2)

Wed Miss

6-14-50

Bella Abzug, chief defense counsel, advised Monday that the Mississippi supreme court for the third time had set a death date, said further legal moves were contemplated.

New Orleans La

"McGee can be saved," she said, but did not elaborate on what the new moves would be.

William Patterson, executive secretary of the civil rights congress announced an appeal "to world humanity to save the life of the innocent Mississippi Negro as you once saved the innocent Scottsboro boys."

Patterson's statement was released at the civil rights congress headquarters where a spokesman said the organization has been handling McGee's appeals.

Civil Rights Group Sets Demonstration

Dallas Morning News

Six Dallas members of the Civil Rights Congress will leave Wednesday for Jackson, Miss., to take part in a demonstration against the scheduled July 27 execution of a Negro convicted of raping a middle-aged white woman.

(The Department of Justice lists the Civil Rights Congress as a Communist-front organization. Dallas members deny CRC is Communistic.)

Wed 27e(2)

7-19-50

The delegation to Jackson will include both Negroes and whites, the Rev. R. H. Harris, Dallas CRC chairman, said. Harris, a Negro, said he would make the trip. Others going will be Cochairman Howard Limerick, white, twice-wounded veteran of World War II; Theophelia Stanford, Gene Owens, Enos Hadnott and Ray Carpenter.

Harris said CRC's national officers ordered the demonstration. He predicted 1,000 CRC members would converge on Jackson from nearly every state in the Union.

Dallas Tex

Scheduled to die July 27 is Willie McGee, 37, a Mississippi Negro. CRC says McGee was framed; that he is about to become a victim of a legal lynching.

"This is not just a fight for the life of one Negro," said Harris, "but a fight for the lives of 15 million Negroes in the United States."

The pastor said arrangements have been made to house all the Jackson delegates at one hotel. He did not know whether the management had been told the delegates would be both white and Negroes.

He said he hoped the delegates from over the nation would have no trouble in Mississippi.

'But we always expect it in Mississippi," he added.

Limerick said he had no personal fears about the demonstration.

"We are soldiers of peace and we will go where our duty calls us," he declared.

Limerick and Harris said the shape of the demonstration has not been determined.

"We will see what the occasion demands," Rev. Harris said. "Our national officers will be there to direct us."

Limerick named delegates at a Tuesday morning caucus held in Harris' office on Hall near State Streets.

Attending were Limerick, Harris, the Rev. Stacy Adams, Sam Barbaria and three CRC delegates from Los Angeles, Calif., Miss Bel Seriff, Miss Dagmar Heydenahal, and Bill Ritman.

Adams, a Negro, is county chairman for the Progressive Party and a national committeeman. Miss Seriff and Miss Heydendahal, both white, are actresses, and Ritman, also white, is a theatrical technician. Barbaria, white, is a Dallas lawyer.

Both Barbaria and Limerick have been active in their support of Fred Estes, avowed North Texas Communist leader, and Jose Estrada, a Mexican laborer.

Immigration officials are trying to deport Estrada on grounds he is a member of an organization advocating forceful overthrow of the Federal Government.

Estes was given a 30-day jail sentence and fined $100 by Federal Judge W. H. Atwell last winter for contempt of court. The sentence and fine came after Estes refused to tell immigration officers what he knew about Estrada and six other aliens. He is at liberty under a $1,000 appeal bond.

Miss Seriff and Miss Heydenahal, both shapely red-heads, said they had obtained several hundred signers to a peace petition on their trip from California to Texas.

"We want to stress the importance of peace and the outlawing of the atomic bomb," Miss Seriff declared. She deplored fighting in Korea.

The two women and Ritman arrived in Dallas Monday night. They planned to spend Tuesday night here and join the Dallas caravan to Jackson.

Adams said the Progressive party is solidly behind CRC's fight to save Willie McGee, and to protect the lives of the nation's other 15 million Negroes.

Last Hearing Given Doomed Negro Rapist

Post-Herald

JACKSON, Miss., July 25 (U.P.)—Mississippi gave a condemned Negro rapist a last clemency hearing today with Civil Rights Congress members and police glaring at each other in the background.

27e(2)

About 50 American Legionnaires patrolled the state capitol corridors to prevent "incidents" during the tense hearing for Willie McGee, who faces electrocution Thursday night.

Wed. 7-26-50

Eight members of the Rights Congress, an organization tagged "subverive" by the Jutice Department, were present to back McGee at the hearing in the House of Representatives.

Birmingham Ala

They had planned to attend in a force of 25 but Gov. Fielding Wright asserted no more than 10 could come, or the hearing would be canceled.

27e(2) 1950 Mississippi

8091

How Kluxer Justice Framed Willie McGee

Worker Sun. 6-18-50

McGee, Martinsville 7 Ask Aid

Willie McGee, framed Mississippi Negro, dies in the electric chair on July 27 unless the people save him.

Executions of the seven framed Martinsvile, Va., Negroes begin the following day, on July 28, unless they are rescued by a mighty protest movement. Worker

All eight Negroes were framed in mock trials for rapes that they didn't commit. Sun. 6-18-50

Protest wires, letters and demonstrations must be speeded before the death house clocks strike the fatal hours, said the Civil Rights Congress. New York N.Y.

Protests to save the life of McGhee must be rushed to Gov. Fielding L. Wright at Jackson, Miss., and to U. S. Attorney General J. Howard McGrath at Washington, D. C.

Protests against the legal lynching of the Martinsville Seven must be sent to McGrath and to Gov. John Battle of Richmond, Va.

By Sadie Van Veen

When the United States Supreme Court refused to review the case of Willie McGee versus the State of Mississippi they condemned a man to death for a crime he did not commit. Willie McGee has been three times convicted and three times sentenced to die because a white woman woke up one morning and told her husband that a man in a "T" shirt and with "kinky" hair had raped her while her husband and two children slept peacefully. That was Nov. 3, 1945.

27e(2)

New York

Mad as this sounds it is the normal procedure for the State of Mississippi where one story is as good as another to frame a Negro.

Mrs. Rosalee McGee has come north at the invitation of the Civil Rights Congress to fight for her husband's life.

★

BEFORE MRS. McGEE could come north, she had to place her four children, Delaree, 12; Gracielee, 11; Willie Earl, 10; and Mary Lee, 9, where they would be safe.

Two of the four children are being cared for by a sister in Ohio; the other two are with their grandmother. The mother of Willie McGee takes in washings to support the children and herself. She came to New York two years ago to plead for her son's life.

ROSALEE McGEE

Until she came north a few weeks ago, Rosalee McGee was working in the little Mississippi town where she lived with her husband and children before the KKK state administration of Mississippi reached out against her family.

She works from sun up to sundown, twelve hours and more. Her wages are 25 cents an hour. At night—seven or eight or even nine o'clock, the young mother drags herself home to cook supper for her children and drops exhausted into bed.

"Please don't let him die" Rosaless McGee says. "I need him so much to help me. I am not giving up. I am praying every day that some good may turn up. . . ."

★

THE FIRST TRIAL took place Dec. 6, 1945, in a lynch atmosphere, with a prosecutor committed to a conviction at any cost. McGee was defended by court-appointed attorneys who were unable to confer with him due to his state of shock. McGee had been so badly beaten that he was dragged into court unable to speak. As in Trenton and other cases where Negroes are framed, McGee had been beaten and tortured into signing a written statement thrust into his hands by his jailers.

His mother and Mrs. Bessie McGee, who was the first of kin to see him after his arrest, said to him: "Willie, why did you sign such a thing when you were innocent?" And her son answered: "Mother I had to sign so that I would be living when you came. When I get to the trial I will tell the truth."

But when McGee was carried to the courtroom practically unconscious from additional torture he could not speak.

The jury was out two minutes. He was sentenced to be electrocuted.

A clipping announcing the sentence came to the attention of George Marshall, at that time chairman of the National Federation of Constitutional Liberties. Mr. Marshall started an investigation and the case was taken to the Mississippi Supreme Court. A new trial was held and McGee again sentenced to die.

★

THE CASE was again appealed, this time by the Civil Rights Congress. And the Mississippi Supreme Court again reversed the decision. There was a third trial again with a lynch atmosphere and a district attorney sworn to get a third conviction. There was the same terror and again the same sentence. The electric chair for Willie McGee.

On May 15 the United States Supreme Court refused to review the case. Willie McGee will die in a month unless the people act now!

Write to Gov. Fielding Wright, State Capitol, Jackson, Mississippi.

Send letters and wires to the three leading churchmen of Jackson, Mississippi. They are Rev. N. B. Schaefer, Bishop R. O. Gerow and Bishop Duncan Gray. Their address: Jackson, Mississippi.

Seek New Evidence In Negro's Behalf

27e(2)

LAUREL — (Special) — Attempts to secure alleged new evidence in behalf of Willie McGee, colored, convicted of the rape of a Laurel housewife and scheduled to die in the state's portable electric chair here July 27, was reported here Friday by F. S. Ford, resident of 441 South Magnolia Street.

Ford said four people, two men and two women, representing themselves as members of McGee's legal staff, made house-to-house contacts in his neighborhood, questioning residents about McGee's employment at the time of the attack.

He said they were trying to get evidence that McGee was employed as a yard boy in the neighborhood during November 1945, the time of the rape. During all three of McGee's trials, all of which resulted in convictions, testimony disclosed that McGee was employed by a local wholesale grocery company as a truck driver prior to the rape and that he stole one of the trucks, parking it near the home of his victim on the night of the attack.

The two men and two women were traveling in an expensive automobile. The men remained in the car while the women questioned persons living in the neighborhood. Ford said all residents questioned told the women McGee had never been employed as a yard boy in the vicinity.

NO MORE DELAYS IN THIS

Willie McGee, rapist, whose lawyers have been making a joke of justice in Mississippi for the past five years, is due to go to the electric chair on July 27th.

27e(2)

No more flimsy legal technicalities should be allowed to interfere with that sadly over-due event.

The execution of Willie McGee has been quite too long delayed.

Daily News

Nevertheless, the Civil Rights Congress, an organization muchly mixed up with Communism, is making another effort to save Willie McGee, and has a battery of lawyers employed for that purpose. One woman lawyer from New York journeyed to Jackson to maneuver the new battle to save McGee from the death he has so long deserved.

Tues 6-20

The Civil Rights Congress is now flooding the nation with propaganda asking people to send letters, telegrams and resolutions to Gov. Fielding Wright urging him to "grant clemency in McGee's case until justice can be obtained."

Jackson Miss.

The Daily News cannot believe—and will not believe unless the word comes from his own lips—that Gov. Wright will permit a continuance of this legal farce by granting an extension of date for McGee's death sentence.

The Civil Rights Congress admits in a circular letter sent daily newspapers throughout the country that it has been fighting in McGee's behalf for four and one-half years and has three times saved him from the death chair.

The Civil Rights Congress also admits in the same letter—copy of which is now before this writer—that it sponsored the two concerts of Paul Robeson, Negro singer, who proudly boasts that he is a member of the Communist party and prefers Russia to the United States.

The Civil Rights Congress further admits that it is sponsoring damage suits amounting to $2,020,000 filed against storm troopers and state and county officials who allegedly "permitted" people to be injured in a riot prior to one of Paul Robeson's concerts in upper New York.

And that's the sorry sort of folks who are attempting to tamper with justice in Mississippi by hiring lawyers to prevent Willie McGee from going to the electric chair.

Let it be reiterated, with all possible emphasis: No more flimsy technicalities should be allowed to interfere with the execution of Willie McGee on July 27th. It is a sadly over-due event.

Seeks To Block Negro's Execution

Post-Herald

Tues. 7-18-50

Civil Rights Unit To Meet In Jackson

NEW YORK, July 17 (AP)—The Civil Rights Congress said today it is sending a 10-state delegation to Mississippi next week to try to block the execution of Willie McGee.

7-18-50

McGee, a 35-year-old Negro, was convicted of the 1945 rape of a white woman and is scheduled for execution July 27.

The Congress — which has been called a Communist organization by the attorney general's office—said its delegation will convene in Jackson, Miss., July 25, two days before the scheduled execution.

27e(2)

The congress called the plan "an unprecedented action in the history of the fight against Jim Crow frameup."

Birmingham

William L. Patterson, executive secretary of the congress, said he expects from 50 to 75 ministers, artists, writers, trade union leaders and other delegates from 10 states.

Ala.

A delegation from California already is on its way to Jackson, he said.

Miss.

The delegates, Patterson said, will seek audiences with Mississippi church leaders, state officials and prominent citizens in an effort to win executive clemency for McGee "until justice can be obtained in the case."

27e

Miss

Post-Herald Thu. 7-28-50 Birmingham, Ala.

CIVIL RIGHTERS FIGHT TO SAVE NEGRO'S LIFE—Mississippi's Gov. Fielding L. Wright (right) meets a group of Civil Righters who came to Jackson to demand that he spare the life of a Negro, Willie McGee, under sentence to die for rape. In the center is Mrs. Winifred Feise of New Orleans, secretary of the Louisiana Progressive Party. At left is Aubrey Grossman, organization secretary of the Civil Rights Congress. The delegation lost its plea after a public hearing in Jackson but next day U. S. Supreme Court Justice Burton gave McGee a stay of execution. (AP Wirephoto)

7-28-50

BEATEN, HE SAYS—Aubrey Grossman of New York, a secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, in New Orleans displaying bandages on wounds he said were inflicted by "five or six men" at Jackson, Miss. He went to Jackson with a delegation of Civil Righters to plead for the life of Willie McGee, a Negro under death sentence for rape. Grossman claims the men attacked him in a hotel room shortly after the U. S. Supreme Court granted McGee a stay of execution. (AP Wirephoto)

Ala.

27e

Beating Told By Attorney For Rapist

News

Thur. 7-27-50

Dallas, Texas

JACKSON, Miss., July 26 (AP).—A defender of Negro Willie McGee told police he was beaten in his hotel room Wednesday after the United States Supreme Court saved McGee, thrice-convicted rapist, from the electric chair.

27e

Aubrey Grossman of New York, organizational secretary of the civil rights congress, reported he was attacked by "five or six" men who piled into his hotel room after he answered a knock.

Miss.

Detective Capt. M. B. Pierce said Grossman suffered one small cut, that there were no serious injuries, and that Grossman planned to fly to New York Wednesday night. He was discharged from the hospital about two hours after the incident.

Pierce said Grossman could not give a good description of his attackers, except that they were young men, the oldest about twenty-five.

Earlier Grossman had reported he felt he was in physical danger.

The civil rights congress—which has been branded a Communist organization by the Justice Department—has been defending McGee, who was scheduled to die in the electric chair Thursday for the rape of a white housewife at Laurel, Miss., in 1945.

The 37-year-old Negro was granted a stay in execution by United States Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton. Burton said in Washington his action was not to be construed as any criticism of any court but that "justice can best be served" by granting the stay. The effect was to delay McGee's execution at least until the high court reviews the case when it reconvenes this fall.

The Mississippi Supreme Court and Gov. Fielding Wright had refused to grant a stay.

At a hearing Tuesday Governor Wright rebuked Grossman for what Wright said was criticism of the Mississippi courts.

Police Chief Holden said Grossman reported that Publisher Ted Thackery of the New York Daily Compass telegraphed Governor Wright Wednesday that Grossman was barricaded in his hotel room fearful of violence. Holden said he and other officers called on Grossman at his hotel room and offered police protection until Grossman left town. Grossman said that Governor Wright was with the officers, but Holden declined to comment and the Governor was not available Wednesday night.

Grossman said he interpreted the offer of police protection as an invitation to leave town immediately.

Detective Paul Stribling said other members of the civil rights delegation had requested an ambulance, which took Grossman to a hospital.

Hal Austin, manager of the hotel and the first person to reach Grossman's room after the report, said "the first thing he (Grossman) called for was a photographer."

SHERIFF 'AFRAID' FOR PRISONER:

Lynch Mob May Seize Willie McGee, CRC Says

Afro-American

BULLETIN

JACKSON, Miss.—Gov. Fielding Wright on Monday held a conference with 10 members of the Civil Rights Congress which brought a delegation to the city to seek mercy for Willie McGee, who is slated to die in the electric chair here on Thursday.

Post 7-29-50

NEW YORK—A lynch mob may seize Willie McGee either from Hinds County Jail in Jackson, Miss., or while he is being taken to Laurel, Miss., for his scheduled electrocution on Thursday, July 27, the Civil Rights Congress has learned.

27e(2)

Miss

A letter from "a friend of Willie McGee' has been received in New York saying the sheriff down in Jones County had said that he was afraid that if McGee is brought to Laurel that a mob might seize him.

McGee is scheduled to die on what CRC has called "a Jim Crow criminal attack frame-up for a crime he did not commit." In disclosing receipt of the letter, William L. Patterson, CRC executive secretary, said:

"World-wide and nation-wide opinion is making Mississippi's legal lynching of McGee increasingly difficult, So the way is now being paved for an OPEN lynching."

Baltimore

Md.

Lynch Mob "Given Signal"

Regarding the Sheriff's statement, Mr. Patterson commented, "He is giving the lynch mob the classic signal of encouragement by saying he's afraid something may happen.

"To answer the lynchers—legal and extra-legal", Patterson continued, "we must use every minute of the next ten days to send more wires and letters to Gov. Wright in Jackson; to hold mass meetings and picket-lines; to arouse the whole world to the imminent lynching of McGee."

CRC Says Ku Klux Threatened Harm To McGee Backers

7-30-50

The Civil Rights Congress, in a mimeographed release, charges that speakers who testified at the "Save (Willie) McGee" hearing before Governor Wright last week were "surrounded by Ku-Klux-Klan elements who were threatening violence."

The release asserts that the stay of execution the CRC persuaded U. S. Supreme Court Justice Burton to grant represented the fourth time in five years that the "CRC, a militant organization of Negroes and whites, had saved the innocent Negro worker from a 'legal lynching' at the hands of Mississippi white supremacists."

27e(2)

The release reports that Willie McGee's wife "cried and smiled at the same time" when she learned of the stay of execution.

The CRC reports Rosalee McGee as saying: "Thanks, thanks, thanks to all of the people and the CRC and the newspapers who helped me. This teaches we Negro people can win if we fight back. People all over got to join the CRC."

No semblance of disorder was seen in the House of Representatives chamber where the hearing for the CRC delegation was heard, nor in any other part of the new capitol building.

Not only were the city police in full force over the city, but 50 American Legion members were deputized to prevent any possible disturbance. A number of the deputies were present in the House chamber during the hearing.

McGee, thrice-convicted Negro rapist, was scheduled to die Thursday. His execution was stayed by an order by U. S. Supreme Court Justice Burton upon the intervention of the CRC, who simultaneously was seeking a stay through the U. S. District Court.

The CRC, listed as a Communist-front organization by the Justice Department, was denied a writ of error coram nobis by Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court Harvey McGehee following a hearing here last week.

27e(2) 1950 Missouri

Argus

Fri. 3-31-50

St. Louis, Mo.

Fear Legal Lynching In Columbia

Prisoner Without Chance Says Lawyer

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The terror of legal lynching has stricken the Negro community of this college town, with the courtroom packed as Jake Bradford, Jr., goes to trial on a charge of assault with intent to commit rape. Bradford, 26, is being tried by an "all-redneck" jury of farmers and businessmen. No Negroes or women are on the jury.

Bradford, one of a large and poor family, had only two years of schooling and must stand trial on a separate charge of rape, on May 17.

27e(2)

The Argus has learned that Bradford was held incommunicado, without any charges being filed against him, for six days. According to some sources this unlawful detention of Bradford was used to give police time to beat a confession out of him.

Bradford is being defended by a white, Republican lawyer, appointed apparently to head off efforts to bring in lawyers from the outside. The prospects of a fair trial are not good, according to a lawyer who investigated the case.

He said that the pattern of going out and getting a Negro for every crime committed in Columbia has become something of a tradition. He based his statement upon the fact that Negroes convicted of sex-crimes in the past were railroaded to prison, thereby leaving the guilty man free.

Reach Verdict in 10 Minutes; 5 Wait Trial

Tribune

Tri 4-14-50

Lincoln, Neb., April 13 [Special]—A jury required only 10 minutes today to reach a verdict convicting David M. Darlington, 19, University of Nebraska student, of assault with intent to a rape a 16 year old high school girl who was abducted, disrobed, photografed, and amorously mauled by a collegiate gang.

Darlington, son of an assistant professor of accounting at the university, sat motionless—as he had thruout the trial—when the verdict was returned.

27e(2)

The District court jury of seven women and five men retired at 2:45 p. m. and returned 10 minutes later. There was an additional delay of about 15 minutes until Defense Atty. C. E. Sanden could be summoned before the verdict was read.

Neb.

Asks for New Trial

Sanden immediately made a motion for a new trial and sentencing of Darlington was deferred until disposition of that action.

Darlington is the first of six university students to be brought to trial on similar charges growing out of that abduction and sexual molestation of two high school girls. All are members of prominent Lincoln families.

One of the girls testified at Darlington's trial that she was forced into a large car containing several men, taken blindfolded to the home of one of the defendants where the additional improper acts occurred.

"The crime of rape was almost committed," Deputy County Atty. Herbert Ronin told the jury in closing arguments. "It was so close there was a question of whether the crime of rape actually had been committed.

"Present in this case were all elements of the crime with which the defendant was charged, including intent."

Rips Speedy Trial

Defense Atty. Sanden contended that nearly everyone seemed to want his client convicted, that defending Darlington was like "trying to hold back an ocean tide" and that "things have happened in this trial that are not right."

"I wish to make no pretense to this court or this jury," Sanden said. "The easy and popular thing to do is to convict my client."

He also complained that Darlington was rushed to trial before a medical examination and examination by psychiatrists were completed. He attacked the testimony of Dr. Franklin L. Spradling, superintendent of the Lincoln State hospital, who testified he believes Darlington is mentally responsible.

"Didn't Examine Him"

"Spradling didn't examine the boy," Sanden said. He sat in the courtroom a part of two days, watching this silent boy who has not emitted a sound, and yet he testified that he observed the boy is sane."

Darlington's parents defended him with testimony that he was a problem child with a maladjusted personality and the jury was instructed that it could return a verdict of not guilty by reason of insanity as well as simple guilty or not guilty. But County Atty. Frederick Wagner told the jury: "To ask acquittal of this defendant is a travesty on justice. I don't think anyone believes he is insane."

YOUTH IS SENTENCED FOR RAPE ATTEMPT

(International News Service)

Lincoln, Neb. Nov. 24—James E. Beal, 19-year-old former University of Nebraska student, was sentenced Friday to a two-to-five year term in the state reformatory at Lincoln for assault with intent to rape a 16-year-old high school girl.

27e(2)

District Judge J. H. Broady delayed execution of the sentence for 10 days on Beal's request that he be given time for treatment of a bad tooth.

11-25-50

Beal, convicted Nov. 9, was the fifth of six Lincoln youths convicted of charges growing out of incidents last March 17 and 18 when two high schools girls allegedly were abducted, taken to the home of one of the youths and forcibly disrobed.

27e(2) 1950

New York

8093

Rape Suspects, Girl Will Take Lie Test

Herald-Tribune

It May Decide Fate of 4 Who Pleaded Guilty

27e(2) NY

Thurs. 6-2-50

New York

Before he sentences four men who pleaded guilty to attacking a seventeen-year-old girl, Judge Harry Stackell of Bronx County Court said yesterday that he will use a lie detector to guide him in determining "whether force was used" or whether the girl acquiesed to their advances.

The use of the lie detector is not sanctioned by law in New York State to determine the truth or falsity of testimony in court, but it is permissible for a judge to put it to use for his own guidance in passing sentence. However, it has never been used for either purpose in a Bronx criminal case.

The tests will be made on the four men and the girl at Fordham University on a date not yet fixed. All principals are said to have agreed. A lie detector records blood pressure and other reactions in the body on a graph, from which it can allegedly be determined if a person is lying.

Judge Stackell emphasized that the results of the tests would not be considered conclusive but it could help him, particularly if the tests showed clearly if the answers were true or false, in being "more equitable in passing sentence."

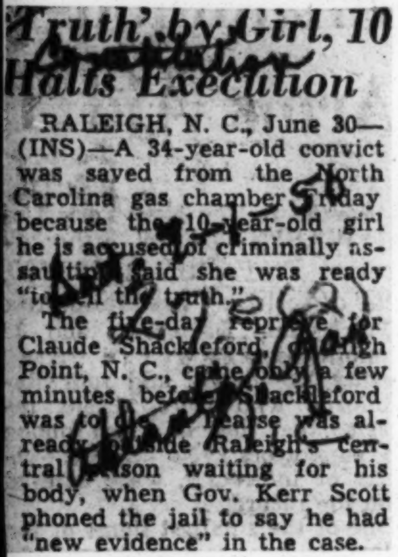
Although the four men pleaded guilty, Hyman Barshay, their counsel, told Judge Stackell that his clients insist that they did not force their attentions on the girl and "I urge he court to permit a lie detector test before these boys are sentenced." New date for sentencing was fixed for June 14.

The four defendants are Saul Agatstein, twenty-five, of 1605 University Avenue; Seymour Pins, twenty-one, of 142 Morton Place; William Fox, twenty-six, of 1851 Phelan Place, all of the Bronx and Marvin Weiss, of 140 West 175th Street.

27e(2) 1950

North Carolina

8094



'Truth' by Girl, 10 Halts Execution

RALEIGH, N. C., June 30—(INS)—A 34-year-old convict was saved from the North Carolina gas chamber Friday because the 10-year-old girl he is accused of criminally assaulting said she was ready "to tell the truth."

The five-day reprieve for Claude Shackleford, of High Point, N. C., came only a few minutes before Shackleford was to die. A hearse was already outside Raleigh's central prison waiting for his body, when Gov. Kerr Scott phoned the jail to say he had "new evidence" in the case.

7-1-50

27e (2)

8095

Publishers Plan To Test "Gag" Law

27e(2)

Journal and Guide

Two South Carolina Newsmen Indicted On Criminal Charges

1-21-50

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) — The Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, individual publishers, other organizations and individuals stood ready last Thursday to carry to the United States Supreme Court, if necessary, the issue of freedom of the press involved in the indictment of two South Carolina newspaper men by a South Carolina grand jury.

Norfolk, Va.

The decision of the publishers to aid in the defense of the case is based on the constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press.

While it appears that the South Carolina law under which the two defendants were indicted is unconstitutional because it forbids publication of an attack victim's name even after trial of the accused, it is believed that a Supreme Court ruling would help to clarify issues by attempts to gag the press in the reporting of criminal news.

The refusal of the Supreme Court on January 9 to review the setting aside of a Baltimore gag rule left still unsettled many issues relating to freedom of the press.

STATE OF MARYLAND

The State of Maryland had asked the high tribunal to review the decision of its State Court of Appeals nullifying the city's gag rule and reversing the contempt convictions of three Baltimore radio stations and a news broadcaster.

The Criminal Court of Baltimore had held the three stations and James P. Connolly in contempt for broadcasting, prior to trial, information concerning the bread knife murder of Marsha Brill, 11, in 1948, by Eugene H. James, a colored man. James was later convicted and hanged.

James' lawyer requested trial before a judge instead of a jury asserting the broadcast made it impossible to pick twelve impartial jurors. The 10-year old city press gage forbade the publication of confessions or other crime details until completion of proceedings.

A CENSORSHIP

In nullifying the rule and reversing the contempt convictions, the Maryland Appeals Court held that the news curb was "in the nature of censorship" and declared that "trials cannot be held in a vaccum hermetically sealed against rumor and report."

In an extraordinary opinion explaining the Supreme Court's refusal to review the case, Justice Felix Frankfurter said the court's action, leaving the Maryland court decision in effect, was not to be interpreted as passing upon the freedom of the press and other issues involved in the case.

Frankfurter said that refusal to review the case merely meant that fewer than four of the nine justice deemed it desirable to review the lower court decision and that denial of review was not to be interpreted as either approval or disapproval of the lower court's views.

Justice Frankfurter warned that reedom of the press is basic to the constitutional system, but that fair administration of criminal justice is also protected by the bill of rights. He said that many of the issues raised by the Baltimore case have not yet been adjudicated by the court and "wise adjudication has its own time for ripening."

The South Carolina case differs in many important aspects from the Baltimore case. The chief difference is that the Baltimore gag rule related to the administration of justice and forbade publication of certain matter prior to a trial.

The South Carolina statue is aimed at protecting complaining witnesses in criminal assault cases, many of which, particularly those involving colored men, are frame-ups. It forbids publication of the name of such a witness even after trial and conviction.

TWO INDICTED

A grand jury at Greenwood, South Carolina, indicted John H. McCray, editor and publisher of the Lighthouse and Informer, a weekly newspaper at Columbia, South Carolina, and Deling Booth, white, of the Columbia (South Carolina) bureau of the Associated Press in connection with stories written about the case of Willie Tolbert Jr., 24, who was electrocuted in South Carolina last Oct. 28.

Tolbert was convicted of criminally attacking a 16-year old white girl, who testified at his trial.

McCray and Booth are charged with "maliciously attempting to do irreparable harm to the good name and splendid reputation of the innocent young girl."

One of the amazing things about their indictment is the fact that a sitting grand jury, in a special report to Judge J. Robert Martin in General Sessions Court at Greenwood, "requested and directed" that evidence be presented to lthe grand jury upon which indictments could be voted against McCray and Booth.

The indictment was based upon stories writtened and published in connection with the circustances surrounding the conviction of Tolbert, a Greenwood garbage department employee.

Journal and Guide

SURENDERED TO POLICE

After eluding an armed posse of 1,000 persons who staged a two-day manhunt for him, Tolbert surrendered to the Greenwood County sheriff, J. Cal White, and was sped to the State penitentiary at Columbia.

The alleged assault was supposed to have taken place the night of August 8, last. The State charged Tolbert with assault in two counties during a ride of several hours in a high-priced automobile, which, it was alleged, he drove while the victim and her 18-year old escort rode in the back seat.

No charge was made that Tolbert possessed any weapon. The girl's escort testified at the trial that he did nothing to prevent the alleged relations because of fear of bodily harm.

Tried in September, Tolbert was convicted by a jury after ten minutes of deliberation, sentenced to death, and electrocuted Oct. 28.

His parents were unable to furnish him with an attorney. Nor did any organization come to his defense. Harold R. Boulware, a colored attorney of Columbia, volunteered his services but could not take an appeal because of a lack of funds.

RELATED VERSION

27e(2) SC

On August 15, less than one week after his arrest, Tolbert related his version of the alleged attack to Boulware in the state penitentiary. Boulware had been employed by the State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to "investigate" the case so that the organization could determine whether to provide aid.

It is believed that the NAACP did not furnish legal aid because Tolbert admitted having sexual intercourse with the girl, a minor, which is a capital offense under South Carolina law, but he did not admit to rape as was charged in the indictment.

A memorandum of the interview was furnished the State NAACP Conference, and a copy given to the Lighthouse and Informer. Some portions of the interview were used in a news story which appeared in the paper on Oct. 1. Tolbert was quoted as saying that the one time he had relations with the girl came after an invitation from her escort, following a similar act by the escort with the girl.

The Associated Press story, written the day before Tolbert's electrocution, was virtually identical with the Lighthouse and Informer's except that it was not as detailed.

THE INDICTMENT

The indictment of McCray and Booth, charging them with "maliciously and deliberately" publishing matters with intent to malign the character of the girl, was brought under a 1935 statute, conviction under which carries a maximum penalty of a year in jail, or $5,000 fine, or both.

Neither the Lighthouse and Informer nor the Associated Press published the girl's name nor sought to identify her in any way.

The case, which is without precedent, is set for trial in the second week of April. One of the State's ablest solicitors has been assigned to prosecute the case.

Several lawyers have volunteered their services, but McCray has not yet retained anyone. The publishers' association may retain a nationally pominent lawyer to aid in the defense of the case and lay the groundwork for eventual appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Negro Pleads Guilty In White Girl Libel

NEWBERRY, S. C., June 19 (U.P.)—A Negro weekly editor pleaded guilty today to criminally libeling a white girl's character in a story about the execution of a convicted Negro rapist and was placed on probation for three years and fined $3,000.

Birmingham Ala

John H. McGray, editor and publisher of The Lighthouse and Informer, escaped a one-year prison sentence by paying the $3000 fine. McCray's guilty plea came as a surprise move after he won a change of venue from Greenwood County, where the libel indictment was drawn.

27e(2)

Under South Carolina law, publication of the name of a rape victim constitutes libel. McCray withheld the name, but the indictment charged that his story nonetheless defamed the girl's character in the eyes of those who had been in the courtroom and who knew her identity.

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3 White Men Attack Girl, 12, Get 25 Years

Afro-American

NEWBERRY, S.C. (ANP) — three white men, who admitted criminally attacking a 12-year-old mentally unbalanced colored girl, were sentenced to 25 years at hard labor in Judge G. Badger Baker's court here Thursday.

The trio were Ernest and Duke Hyler and Harry Harmon. Sentence was imposed after a recommendation for mercy was submitted. The defendants had entered no defense testimony.

27e(2) 1950

Texas

8096

Bessard Ignorant On Rape

Informer

HOUSTON —

In jail facing possible death in the electric chair, Morris Bessard, 21, third man indicted for rape on a white girl in 1948 told Informer reporters that he had never heard of anyone's being executed on rape indictments.

Sat. 6-3-50

Asked if he had ever read about rape, Bessard answered: "I can't read."

27e(2)

Bessard was arrested last week by Sheriff C. V. (Buster) Kern on a tip from Odessa police officers that he had been located. He made a confession on his return to Houston.

Houston

Asked why he did it, Bessard said, "Those other boys made me." The other boys are Nathaniel Edwards, who has been electrocuted and Eugene McFarland, who is to died May 31.

When Edwards was tried he claimed that Bessard and McFarland had forced him to attack the girl. Bessard said that the other two made him attack her because they were afraid he would tell on them.

Bessard said that he spent the entire year he eluded arrest in Pecos Valley. He left Houston on a freight train when officers were hunting for him. He first left with Nathaniel Edwards and returned with Edwards but he did not give himself up like Edwards. He said that once while officers were looking for him they passed right by him on the Chocolate Bayou road.

Man Given Chair In Rape-Murder

Courier

27e(2)

HILLSBORO, Tex. — An all-white jury deliberated only fifteen minutes Thursday before imposing the death penalty on a Hillsboro cook for the rape and murder of a 12-year-old girl last May [illegible].

Hillsboro

It was one of the few death sentences ever voted in ninety-seven-year-old Hill County and perhaps the first for the rape-murder of a Negro victim.

Short, mustached Isaac (Ike) Clemmons, 44, pleaded guilty to the rape and murder of the child, Esther Mae Graham, but said he was drunk at the time of the crime.

Texas Rapist Hangs Self Cheats 'Chair'

Defender

HILLSBORO, Tex.— The suicide last week of a man convicted for the rape-murder of a 12-year-old girl cheated the death chair here of its first victim.

27e(2)

The body of Isaac (Ike) Clemmons, 44, a Hillsboro cook, was found in his Hill county jail cell Monday morning. A crude rope made of strap torn from his mattress was around his neck and tied to one of the bars.

Clemmons, a short man and an ex-convict, was given the death penalty July 6 for the admitted rape and murder of Esther Mae Graham. He confessed that after committing the [illegible] crime he hid the child's body in a railroad culvert south of town.

He was convicted by an all-white jury that deliberated only 15 minutes. It was believed to be the first instance in the county's recent history that the death penalty had been imposed for the rape or murder of a Negro person.

Try White Youth For Rape Of Negro

Informer

HOUSTON — District Attorney A. C. Winborn, Tuesday began selection of a jury to hear the trial of Richard Ward, 19-year-old white youth accused of the rape of a 22-year-old Negro mother last July.

Sat.

Three jurors, all white, had been selected by 10:30.

27e(2)

The entire community was shocked this mid-summer, when the young woman told her story of a wild all-night ride through three counties, during which time, she said she was raped three times by her youthful companion, who had lured her away from home on the promise of a job.

Houston

A slight flurry was caused in courtroom, when one prospective juror was refused permission to serve after he told the bailiff it was "against (his) religious faith" to swear. The man, Charlie Hooper, said he was a member of the Pentecostal Church of Christ on Lockwood Drive.

A previous flurry was created when Negroes who reported for jury service were told by the bailiff they could be excused. Mrs. C. V. Adair, executive secretary of the NAACP, put in a hurried call to Mr. Winborn, who was then out of the room, and after he held a short conference with the bailiff, Judge Langston G. King then instructed the Negroes, who had not yet left the courtroom, on the procedure of qualifying for jurors.

27e(2)

The question of the racial involvement has been skirted by both the prosecution and the defense attoneys. Querying one propective juror, the defense reminded him that the moral question was not involved in this case, at which Judge King explained,

"He means, you would not be prejudiced against a man simply because he was with a woman, whether he was guilty of rape or not, would you?"

The second Negro to be queried was dismissed after he told attorneys for each side that he would give Ward" the same trial that you all would give me—the chair!"

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99 Years Given Rape Defendant

Joe Greer, a big, impassive young Negro, was assessed a 99-year prison term Saturday by a criminal district court jury that found him guilty of raping a 32-year-old white housewife.

After the verdict was read and court recessed by Judge Henry King, the small, slender victim walked up to the members of the jury and thanked them for their verdict, in a voice choked with emotion.

The state had asked the death penalty for Greer, 19, who had been in jail ever since a few minutes after the offense was committed on the night of Feb. 10, 1949. The victim had been throttled, thrown to the ground in a yard next to her home, and raped by the attacker.

She managed to scratch his face and neck, however—and the police officer who arrested Greer a few blocks away testified Friday that Greer's face bore fresh scratch marks.

27e(2)

Because of laws that forbid hearsay testimony, the officer was unable to testify how Greer had been spotted as the attacker. Greer's topcoat matched a description given by the woman.

The defendant was indicted after his arrest for another rape, involving a Negro woman—an indictment that still is pending against him. Police said the same strong-arm method had been used in both cases. Greer had served time in a reform school in California as a juvenile—something else the judge did not admit in testimony, in order to insure a fair trial.

Greer, his mother and uncle, and several friends testified Friday night that he had been with them almost every minute for at least an hour before his capture. On persistent cross-examination by Asst. Dist. Attorneys Harold McCracken and Ray Stokes, however, many discrepancies arose in their testimony.

The prosecutors and court-appointed Defense Atty. Harvey Lindsay, had interviewed more than 100 jury-panel members before arriving at twelve who satisfied both sides.

Rape Case Due For Trial After 2-Year Delay

Morning News

After nearly two years, a young Negro named Joe Greer is scheduled Wednesday to go on trial in Criminal Dist. Judge Henry King's court for rape.

Wed. 10-11-50

Greer has been in jail since one night early in 1948, when he was arrested and charged with attacking a white woman on a South Dallas street. The case has been set twice before and passed each time for the state.

Dallas

Tuesday, a jury in Criminal Dist. Judge Robert A. [illegible]'s court gave Will Allen Lee, 20, a 2-year prison term for burglary of Jack's Drugstore, 900 East Seventh, on Aug. 6.

A jury in visiting Dist. Judge Sam Williams' special criminal court heard Sammy Taylor, 26, testify at his own trial for murder that the victim, Alex Edwards, had grabbed him from behind. The shooting occurred in an alley behind Edward's barbershop at 2010 Washington.

27e(2)

Taylor said he was in the alley trying to peep into the barbershop because he was suspicious of Edwards' attentions to his, Taylor's wife. He said he had been carrying a pistol at the time because he feared Edwards would pull a razor on him. Final arguments in the case are scheduled for Wednesday.

In Judge King's court, a jury assessed Billy Marvin Faulkenburry, 21, of Irving, a 4-year sentence for burglary of the W. O. Stevens home on Route 6, Dallas, in August, 1949.

Two accomplices testified that Faulkenburry had accompanied them on the burglary, which netted $379 worth of guns and other goods. Several deputy sheriffs said Faulkenburry had made a statement admitting his guilt, and even had drawn a diagram which enabled them to locate the stolen articles.

Judge King Tuesday also sentenced Eddie Eldridge to five years on a plea of guilty to burglary.

Man Indicted Under Texas' New Sex Law

News
Tues. 8-15-50
Dallas, Texas

Kenneth Cruce Clary, 26-year-old ice cream peddler, was indicted by the grand jury Monday for felonious fondling of a 5-year-old Dallas County girl July 18.

Clary, charged with attempted rape of the child, was indicted instead under one of the state's new sex laws setting up a maximum penalty of twenty-five years for indecent fondling of a child under 14.

270 (2)

Asst. Dist. Atty. Bob Scott, assigned to the grand jury, said the indictment specifying fondling would give the state a broader basis for its case against Clary. Two older girls witnessed the incident, but the child's mother did not want her to have to testify in a trial, Scott said.

Clary gave police a signed statement admitting luring the child away from her playmates on the Colonial School playground, and attempting to rape her.

The indictment was one of twenty-five returned by the grand jury Monday to Criminal Dist. Judge Robert A. (Bob) Hall. Twenty-one no-bills also were returned.

Youth Given 8 Years for Raping Girl

Dallas, Texas
Aug. 12. 8-50
Morning News

Harold Thomas Fallwell, 19, was found guilty of raping a 19-year-old girl at Fair Park and assessed an 8-year prison term by a criminal district court jury Thursday.

275 (2)

His mother and several other female relatives cried out in anguish when Visiting Judge Penn Jackson read the jury verdict, but Fallwell's expression did not change.

He was convicted of raping the girl in the shadows near the Fine Arts Building on April 11. The slender complaining witness testified that Fallwell, a tall, strong youth, had choked her unconscious twice before committing the act.

Six months before the incident, Fallwell had been arrested and charged with a similar assault, also at Fair Park. A rape indictment was returned and is still pending. Fallwell also stands indicted for burglary in Grayson County.

The victim in the case on trial broke down and wept while Prosecutors Jimmie MacNicoll and Harold McCracken made their closing arguments late Wednesday, and Defense Atty. Tom Howard objected to what he called her "obvious attempt to gain the jury's sympathy." The judge overruled Howard.

During the trial, Fallwell admitted the act from the witness stand, but said no force had been used. He said the girl had submitted without any objection or struggle. But several state witnesses testified that her neck had dark blue bruises for several days afterward, and that the whites of her eyes were blotched with blood.

The case went to the jury late Wednesday, and the jurors deliberated until 11 p.m. before Judge Jackson ordered them locked up for the night. The foreman told the judge then that the jurors were "in agreement about one part of it," indicating strongly that they had found him guilty, but could not yet agree on the penalty.

Late Thursday, Howard said he expected to file a motion for a new trial soon. Fallwell must remain in jail until that motion is acted upon before he can be freed on appeal bond.

8097

Plan Funerals For Doomed Seven

By ALICE A. DUNNIGAN, SHERMAN BRISCOE and OSCAR HAYNES

MARTINSVILLE, Va., (ANP)—The biggest and saddest funeral this town has ever seen will be held on the first Sunday in August from five different churches when the last rites for the seven Martinsville boys will be conducted.

Of course, the boys are not dead yet, but four of them will walk to the electric chair in the Virginia State Prison next Friday and the other three will follow a week later unless Gov. John Battle commutes their sentences. They are dying for the alleged rape of Mrs. Ruby Floyd, a 32-year-old white woman, on the evening of Jan. 8 1949.

27e

Funeral services for these boys will be no ordinary rites; they will be more than that—more like obsequies for the whole town for whose sins of omission these boys are dying.

7-29-50

Town of Martinsville

What kind of town is Martinsville anyway? It's a town of 20,000, situated 50 miles south of Roanoke with its shoulder pressed against the knee of the Blue Ridge mountains. It's a textile mill and furniture factory town. It's a one-block town—the Baldwin Block—where its 5,000 Negro inhabitants seem to gather every Saturday night to make love and even scores.

Va

Dr. D. O. Baldwin, who owns the block, spends most of his nights sewing. Sewing up wounds that heal the outside. But there are wounds that his suture cannot reach—wounds of spirit. The mill workers, who are last hired, first fired, and never promoted, try to sooth these wounds with whisky and beer in a dry county.

Martinsville is half-white, and every other colored person you meet is named Hairston—named for Watt Hairston and his clan who ruled this town when it was a mere commissary for his slaves.

Yes, the town is half-white. Makes you think that, well there has been a lot of raping going on here.

You say, what about the schools and recreational facilities for Negro boys and girls? Well, since the old school burned down over a year ago, the high school youngsters have been having class in halls and defunct nite clubs. However, the new school promises to be modern and a first step toward achievement of separate but equal facilities.

Youngsters' Recreation

The youngsters have their recreation in the Baldwin Block, seeing western movies and drinking wine and beer. Mothers of the Martinsville boys have no qualms about telling you that their 18-year-old sons had been drinking on the night of the alleged rape. Drinking is part of the recreation like the loose living which results in the town having more than its share of illegitimate children.

The town will turn out for the funeral. And most of the people will be genuinely sad. They don't want the boys to die. Atty. William T. Alexander told the Capital Press club committee that both white and colored people of Martinsville were opposed to the death sentence. It makes everybody feel guilty in a community where sex is taken for granted outside of wedlock.

Preachers To Do Job

But the preachers will do their job. They will tell their listeners about James and Howard Hairston, brothers who were converted in prison. They will tell about Frank Hairston, no relation to the brothers, who helped his father keep their little cottage painted and prim. Frank's 104-year-old grandmother will strain to hear what the preacher says.

Then there's Booker T. Millner, who tried to enlist in the army three months before the night of Jan. 8, but was turned down. Ironically, he took a job sketching name designs on tombstones for a monument company. Soon, he will have a tombstone over his 20-year-old body.

A skirt of woods and a brook away, lived John Taylor with his widowed mother. His father died when he was seven and a few years later he took a job in a tobacco warehouse to help keep things going. Altogether he has six brothers and sisters.

-50

Then there are Joe Hampton and Francis Grayson, the latter isn't a boy. He is the father of five children.

There Are Hundreds Left

When the ministers preach the funeral of these boys who went to trial without a lawyer, except the ones furnished by the state, they are bound to think of the hundreds of other boys in this town which provides few guideposts for Negro youths, but which exacts a heavy penalty of those who err.

It's a "knock on any door" proposition in Martinsville. These boys committed their first sin when they selected this town to be born in. This week and next they will pay for their folly. But somehow as we take a last look at the hollow of the fringe of town where these boys lived and where they will be buried, we can't help saying to ourselves, "Gosh, it might have been you."

Seven Negroes Convicted Of Raping White Woman Given Reprieve From Chair

Daily News Jackson Miss. 7-27-50

RICHMTND, Va. — (AP) — Seven Negroes convicted of the rape of a 32-year-old Martinsville, Va., white woman Thursday had an indefinite reprieve from Virginia's electric chair.

27e(2) Va

And it appeared that the men, believed doomed when Governor John S. Battle refused them executive clemency on Monday, conceivably could stay in the "death row" for many more months of legal maneuvering.

Hustings Court Judge M. Ray Doubles ordered stays of execution late Wednesday, less than 36 hours before the first four men were to have died at the Virginia state penitentiary.

The judge granted the stays, effective until further court order, after Martin A. Martin, Negro attorney for the men, filed petitions for writs of habeas corpus contending the seven were denied "equal protection of the law" under the 14th amendment to the federal constitution.

It was a new tack in Martin's campaign to save the men from death. His previous pleas were based on contentions the men were denied a fair trial because the Martinsville circuit court refused a change of venue.

The law provides that the defense may appeal to any court if it has new grounds for action, and even a denial by Judge Doubles of Martin's petition for the writs would permit subsequent appeals to higher courts.

Martin's appeal contended the State of Virginia consistently has executed Negroes for rape but never has sentenced white men to death for the same crime.

Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston, Jr., Booker T. Millner and Howard Hairston were to have died Friday for the rape January 8, 1949, of Mrs. Ruby Stroud Floyd, wife of a storekeeper. Francis Desales Grayson, John Clabon Taylor and James Luther Hairston were to have been executed August 4.

In addition to governor battle's denial of executive clemency, the Negroes' appeals for reversal of the death verdicts had been turned down by the U. S. Supreme Court and the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

Seven Negroes To Die For Rape

Daily News

Tues. 7-25-50

RICHMOND, Va. — (P) — Seven Negroes were doomed today to death in the electric chair for raping a white woman.

Their final hope for life was shattered when Gov. John S. Battle refused to commute death sentences to life imprisonment.

Va

Four of the seven were scheduled to be electrocuted Friday and the other three on Aug. 4.

Six separate juries convicted the seven of raping the wife of a store manager when she went into the Negro section to collect for some clothes she had sold.

The state Supreme Court of Appeals upheld the convictions and death sentences and the United States Supreme Court refused last month to review the cases.

Potomac Paragraphs

7 in Rape Case Get Stays of Execution

Post Thurs. 7-27-50

Richmond, Va., July 26—(AP)—Judge M. Ray Doubles, of Richmond Hustings Court, Part 2, late today granted stays of execution for seven Martinsville Negroes convicted of raping a white woman.

Judge Doubles granted the stays of execution until further court order after petitions for writs of habeas corpus were filed by Martin A. Martin, counsel for the seven men.

Washington,

At the same time, Judge Doubles entered an order for W. Frank Smyth, superintendent of the state penitentiary, to show cause why the writs should not be issued, and directed him to answer by September 7.

27e(2) Va

The last minute legal maneuver came almost on the eve of the execution date for four of the seven who were convicted of raping Mrs. Stroud Floyd, wife of a Martinsville storekeeper, on January 8, 1949.

Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hariston, jr., Booker T. Millner and Howard Hairston were scheduled for execution in the electric chair Friday. Francis DeSales Grayson, John Clabon Taylor and James Luther Hairston were to have died on August 4.

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7 Negroes Ask Review Of Case

Advertiser

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—(AP)—Seven Negroes convicted of raping a white woman at Martinsville, Va., asked the Supreme Court Saturday to review their case.

Sun. 11-19-50

A death sentence was given to each of the seven—Joe Henry Hampton, Booker T. Millner, Frank Harriston, Jr. Howard Harriston, Francis DeSales Grayson, John Clabon Taylor and James Luther Harriston.

27e(2)

Their execution, originally set for July 28, was stayed by Governor John S. Battle to February.

The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals in March upheld their conviction on May 3, 1949, in the Martinsville Circuit Court. On Nov. 3 the State Supreme Court denied writs of error in each case.

The petition for a review contends civil rights are violated because the death penalty for rape "is now and always has been in Virginia reserved solely for Negroes convicted of rape or attempted rape upon white women.

"White men have always had an immunity from such penalty," the petition added.

Youth Given 5-Year Term In Luray Rape

Post Tu. 10-13-50

LURAY, Va., Oct. 12 (Spl.)—Randolph Judd, 26, of Luray, today was given a five-year jail sentence after he was convicted by a Page County jury of the rape of a 21-year-old Luray girl.

Washington

The verdict climaxed the second trail of Judd on the rape charge. A first trail, in July, in Page County Circuit Court, produced a guilty verdict on the rape charge and a ten-year jail sentence.

27e(2) Va

Circuit Court Judge Hamilton Haas granted a new trial because of new evidence and because he said the court had erred in not permitting the jury to bring in a lesser verdict than rape. The trial was conducted behind closed doors. Judd formerly operated a filling station in Washington.

On Eve of Executions

Martinsville 7 Granted Stay

27e(2) Va

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N-!

RICHMOND, Va.—Governor Battle granted a stay of execution here Sunday for the seven Martinsville (Va.) men sentenced to die for the rape of a white woman. The Governor set Feb. 2 and 5, respectively, as the new dates of execution pending a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court regarding a writ of certiorari being sought by defense counsel.

Courier

NEW YORK—Working dramatically against time, attorneys of the NAACP continued to prepare their defense of the lives of seven Martinsville, Va. youths, four of whom are slated for execution this week, for its second presentation to the U. S. Supreme Court.

11-18-50

Preparation was under way this week of a petition for writ of certiorari, asking the Supreme Court to review the refusal of the Virginia Supreme Court to grant a writ of habeas corpus in the case.

Pittsburgh

Electrocutions for the seven have been scheduled for four on Nov. 17 and three on Nov. 20. A stay of execution of the men has been granted by Governor Battle of Virginia, pending the filing of the petition for certiorari.

Martin A. Martin and Samuel Tucker of Richmond and NAACP Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, attorneys handling the case, assailed the Civil Rights Congress for its proposed march on Richmond, scheduled for Nov. 15, to demand a full pardon for the men.

Courier

"We want to make it clear to the general public, and particularly to those whose primary interest is equal justice for the Martinsville Seven and for all Americans regardless of color," the NAACP attorneys stated, "that neither the NAACP nor the lawyers representing the defendants in the Martinsville case knew anything about this move."

27e(2)

Decrying the demonstration as the work of those "whose interest lies only in espousing their political philosophy," the attorneys announced that they "do not approve of the appearance of such a delegation at this time, while legal proceedings are pending."

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7 Doomed Negroes Appeal To Virginia Supreme Court

Courier-Journal

10-20-50

By the Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 20.—The Virginia Supreme Court was asked yesterday to reserve a Richmond City Hustings Court decision denying petitions for writs of habeas corpus to seven Martinsville Negroes sentenced to death for raping a white woman.

A petition for a writ of error was filed with the Supreme Court clerk by Martin A. Martin, counsel for the seven condemned men.

It asked the Supreme Court to decide whether the executions could be carried out without violating the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution. It contended that the death sentence as punishment in rape cases is reserved exclusively in Virginia for Negroes.

27e(2)

Washington

The same issue was presented unsuccessfully to Judge M. Ray Doubles, of Richmond Hustings Court Part 2, who after a hearing earlier this month denied the petitions for writs of habeas corpus.

Following the Hustings Court decision, new execution dates were fixed for the seven by Judge Kennon C. Whittle, of Martinsville Circuit Court. Under Judge Whittle's order, four of the men are to be electrocuted in the State Penitentiary November 17, and three November 20.

Plea Is Made For 7 Doomed In Rape Case

Post

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 19 (AP).—Counsel for seven Martinsville Negroes sentenced to die for raping a white woman asked the Virginia Supreme Court today to review a Richmond hustings court decision which denied the men writs of habeas corpus.

27e(2)

The petition for writ of error filed with the clerk of the Supreme Court by Attorney Martin A. Martin contended that the death sentence as punishment in rape cases is reserved exclusively in Virginia for Negroes.

Fri. 10-20-50 Va

This same issue was raised unsuccessfuly in Richmond hustings court, part 2, earlier this month in a hearing which resulted in the habeas corpus plea being rejected.

Washington

Following the decision, execution dates for the seven were set by Judge Kennon C. Whittle of Martinsville Circuit Court. He ordered four of the men electrocuted on November 17 and three on November 20.

Granting of the habeas corpus petition could have returned the cases to Martinsville for new trials. The Supreme Court already has reviewed the case once and affirmed the Circuit Court convictions. The United States Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

The petition asked the Supreme Court to decide whether the executions could be carried out without violating the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution.

The attorney asked permission to present the petition orally to one of the justices of the Supreme Court, which is not now in session and does not meet again until November 20.

Supreme Court to Review Case Of Negro Given Life Sentence

Times-Dispatch Sat. 6-17-50

Richmond, Va.

The Virginia Supreme Court will review a case in which it is alleged that a Negro man was denied his rights because persons of his race were excluded from jury service.

27e(2)

The charge was contained in a petition for writ of error filed by counsel for Jodie Bailey, who was sentenced to life in prison on a charge of first-degree murder, after a trial in Greensville County Circuit Court.

Va

Bailey was convicted of the fatal stabbing of L. P. Brockwell, Sr., Emporia auto repair shop service manager, during a fight over a repair bill on Oct. 8, 1949.

The petition charged Bailey was denied his rights under the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution because there was discrimination against Negroes "solely by reason of their race, in the selection of the venire which had been summoned for the trial."

It contended that there has been a "systematic, deliberate and invariable practice on the part of administrative officials" in excluding Negroes from jury duty in Greensville County.

The petition also claimed that the law and the evidence failed to support the conviction for first-degree murder.

The court refused petitions for writs of error to Ola Barnes, in a real estate case tried in Norfolk City Circuit Court, and to the Norfolk Southern Bus Company.

In the latter case, the bus company sought an appeal from Norfolk City Circuit Court, where a judgment of $15,000 was returned in favor of Herman Lubschutz.

Lubschutz was administrator for Eugene Griffin, who was killed in an automobile-bus collision Dec. 26, 1948, at an intersection on Indian River Road.

Clemency Is Petitioned For 7 Negroes

Times-Dispatch

Counsel for seven Martinsville Negroes yesterday formally asked Governor Battle to commute from death to life imprisonment the penalty imposed on their clients for the rape of a white woman.

Their petition was filed with the Governor by Martin A. Martin, Richmond attorney, with a request for a hearing after July 4.

Sat. 6-24-50

The Governor had no immediate comment on the petition, but said he would hear the lawyers present their plea at a date to be determined.

27e(2)

The condemned men are scheduled for execution July 28 and August 4. Both the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court have declined to change the lower court's convictions.

Va

Richmond, Va.

Yesterday's petition for executive clemency said the death penalty was harsh and extreme. It declared the petitioners "are informed and believe that the prime reason they were sent to the electric chair was because all of them are colored and the prosecutrix was a white woman and the juries were composed of white men.

"They are informed by the highest authority that no white man has ever been electrocuted in Virginia for raping a woman," it added.

The case "psychologically if not legally, . . . is peculiarly within the province of executive clemency," the petition said.

The seven men are Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston, Jr., Booker T. Millner, Howard Hairston, James Luther Hairston, Francis DeSales Grayson and John Clabon Taylor. Most of them, the petition asserted, are young men with good records prior to the crime of which they were convicted.

Supreme Court Denies Review Of Rape Case

Times-Dispatch

Two Appeal Petitions Granted by Tribunal

Wed. 6-21-50

The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals yesterday declined to review the case of Frasker Young, convicted in Henrico County Circuit Court on a charge of rape and sentenced to serve 25 years in the State penitentiary.

27e(2)

Va

Young, then 18, a Negro, was accused of raping a 27-year-old white woman at her home in the Rollingwood section on June 27, 1949. He denied he had anything to do with the crime. His petition offered 14 assignments of error, among them allegations that the Commonwealth's attorney referred to an illegal confession and that the court erred in not granting defense motions for change of venue and venire.

Richmond, Va.

Moving toward adjournment of its June term today, the court granted appeal petitions in two cases yesterday and disposed of several others.

To Review $25,000 Suit

It agreed to review the Richmond Law and Equity Court's dismissal of a $25,000 suit brought by Alawoise Strickland against David H. Katz and David H. Katz, Jr. The suit charged wrongful eviction and malicious abuse of civil process involving a building in the 300 block North Second Street which the plaintiff said she had leased for five years.

Also granted was an appeal sought by Glayds L. Lloyd, administratrix of Robert Clayton Lloyd, in a suit against Steven Ralph Andrews, from Fauquier County Circuit Court.

The court refused petitions for rehearings in two cases decided by it earlier—Minnie E. Hoffman, administratrix, et al, vs. W. B. Stuart and F. Grove White, trading as W. B. Stuart Co., and George M. Mann vs. Virginia B. Clowser and John A. Clowser.

It rejected a habeas corpus petition by James Maughs, of Charlottesville, who alleged a "frame-up" was responsible for his conviction and 10-year penitentiary sentence on a charge of possessing stolen goods.

Also refused were appeal petitions in these cases:

Luther Leonard Wood vs. Tennessee Coach Company Lines and Glenn Stanley Barlow, from Tazewell County Circuit Court.

Richard Cunningham Richardson vs. Doris Catherine Richardson, from Richmond Chancery Court.

For Sake of Five Children

Martinsville Wife Wages Own Campaign For Husband's Life

Courier

Sat. 7-8-50.

RICHMOND, Va.—While an organized campaign is under way to save the lives of the "Martinsville seven," the wife of one of the condemned men is waging a crusade to save her husband, the father of her five children. from Virginia's electric chair.

She is Mrs. Josephine Grayson, wife of 37-year-old Francis DeSales Grayson. She is making a tour of churches in the Richmond area, pleading with their members to write letters to Gov. John S. Battle to commute her husband's death sentence to life imprisonment.

27e(2) Va

BIG RESPONSE

"In the name of my five small children, I appeal to you to help save their father." That is what Mrs. Grayson told the congregation of Hood Temple AMEZ Church. And she's making the same appeal at Sunday services of other churches.

Pittsburgh Pa.

And she is getting a big response. The letters are pouring into the Governor's office, but just how many of them have been received hasn't been made public.

5,000 SIGNATURES

Martin A. Martin of Richmond, principal attorney for the Virginia Conference, NAACP, has filed petitions bearing more than 5,000 signatures and asking that the seven men be spared. The petitions have been rushed to Governor Battle, along with a request that he hear the case for the condemned men.

The Governor has agreed to hear Martin and his associates, but the exact date has not been set.

Unless Battle intervenes, four of the seven are to be put to death July 28 and the other three are to die August 4.

REVIEW REFUSED

The seven men were convicted in Martinsville Circuit Court of charges of raping Mrs. Ruby Stroud Flovd. 32. wife of a white merchant, on Jan. 8, 1949. Subsequently, the Virginia Supreme Cout of Appeals affirmed the convictions. Early last month the United States Supreme Court refused to review the cases.

Originally sentenced to die in May and June of last year, the men have been granted reprieves, pending the outcome of their appeals.

Grayson is the only one of the seven who is married.

The four scheduled to be electrocuted July 28 are Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston Jr., Booker T. Millner and Howard Lee Hairston.

The three who have a date with death Aug. 4 are John Clabon Taylor, James Luther Hairston and Gravson.

Gov. Battle Holds Fate Of 7 Youth Accused Of Rape

Informer. Sat. 7-15-50
Houston, Texas

RICHMOND, Va. — (ANP) -The fate of the Martinsville Seven now lies in the hands of Gov. John Battle of Virginia. Several educational, civic and religious leaders appeared before the Gov. last Friday in behalf of seven youths who are sentened to die in the electric chair July 28 and Aug. 4 for the alleged rape of Mrs. Ruby Stroud Floyd, a white woman of Martinsville.

27e(2)
Va

The hearing before Gov. Battle was requested by NAACP Atty. Martin A. Martin of Richmond after the U.S. Supreme court had refused to hear aguments on the case.

The case involves Booker T. Millner, 20; Frank Hairston, 19; John C. Taylor, 22; Francis D. Grayson, 35; Joe H. Hampton, 20; Howard Hariston, 18; and James L. Hariston, 20, who were charged with raping Mrs. Floyd in January, 1949.

Atty. Martin stated that the prime reason they were sentencd to the electric chair was because all were colored and the woman was white. The defendants we tried before an all white jury in Martinsville where the feeling was running high at the time.

NO WHITE MAN EVER ELECTROCUTED FOR RAPE

The attorney for the defense further stated that no white man has ever been electrocuted in Virginia for the raping of a woman.

It was leaned from reliable sources that the majority of the citizens of both races in Martinsville, as well as other cities throughout the state feel that the punishment for the seven boys is far too severe.

It was recalled that Lenard Davis and Carl Burleson two white policemen were convicted for attacking a Negro woman in Richmond two years ago and they were sentenced to only seven years in prison.

Atty. William T. Alexander of Martinsville, recalls two instances of rape in Virginia where the accused men were only sentenced to do prison terms. One was the case of a white deputy sheiff who was given 37 years for the rape of a 10-year-old white girl but committed suicide rather than face humiliation of going to prison.

The second case cited was that of a colored man who raped a 12-year-old white girl and is now serving a 35 year prison term with the hope of being released after having served one-third of the given sentence.

CAME TO MARTINSVILLE FOR HOME

One of the so-called "Martinsville Seven" boys who is now facing death in the electric chair is a 35-year-old married man and the father of five children. This man, Francis J. Grayson, had come to Matinsville just a few months earlier because he was unable to find living quarters for his family in Jersey City. In Martinsville he had secured employment at one of the furniture factories and was the supporter of his wife Josephine and the five children.

Howard and James L. Hariston are brothers whose parents are dead. They were reared by an aunt, Mrs. Irene Hodge. They were forced to leave school at a very early age and help support their widowed aunt and her young son, before her second marriage to James Hodge some five yeas ago.

Frank Hariston Jr., is a cousin to the two other Hariston boys The 19-year-old lad had been a tobacco warehouse worker and was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harrison S. R. His father is a contractor who prides himself for having built the neat two-story house for his family some 20 years ago and another across the road for his one-hundred-year old mother, who now sits and grieves for her favorite grandson who she will pehaps never see again.

Plaintiffs Charge City Violates 14th Amendment

27e(2)
Va

RICHMOND, Va. — (NNPA) — Nine colored residents of Colonial Beach, Virginia, last Friday filed suit in the Federal District Court here to enjoin the town and its Mayor from discriminating against them by barring them from the use of public bathing beaches and other recreational facilities.

The plaintiffs charged that the town is violating the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution by providing beaches, wharves, bath houses and boating facilities for its white residents and not for its colored.

The suit asked that the defendants be enjoined from denying the plaintiffs the use of recreational facilities already established or "similar and equal accommodations and facilities."

At Colonial Beach, Mayor Norman Brewington said the town would be prepared to defend the suit if the council voted to do so.

CASE SIMILARITY

The complaint is similar to one filed in the District Court here on July 9, 1948, against the State Department of Conservation and Develepoment which maintains Virginia's system of public parks. The suit charged racial discrimination in that there were seven parks for white citizens and only one for colored citizens with no overnight accommodations.

The department denied there was discrimination and said it tried to provide parks in proportion to expressed demand. It added that it was unable to provide sufficient parks to meet the full demands of either white or colored people and the question was whether it must provide additional facilities in the absence of a showing of substantial demand.

The case has never been tried, although it has not been dismissed. A new park for colored people was built at Prince Edward Lake, five miles south of Burkeville.

New Death Dates Set For Martinsville 7

Informer

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — (ANP)- Judge Kennon C. Whittle, set new execution dates last week for the seven Martinsville men, condemned to the electric chair for the rape of a white woman.

27e(2)
10-21-50

The dates were set immediately after Atty. Martin A. Martin, announced in Richmond, he would appeal to the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals a ruling by Judge A. Ray Doubles which denied writs of habeas corpus to the seven men.

Four of the men, Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston Jr., and Booker T. Millner, all 21, and Howard Lee Hairston, 20, were ordered electrocuted on Nov. 17. The other three will go to their deaths on Nov. 20. They are John Clabon Taylor and James Luther Hairston, both 21, and Francis De Sales Grayson, 38.

The men were convicted for the rape of the wife of a Martinsville merchant, on Jan. 8, 1949, in the Martinsville circuit court in April, 1949.

To date, the State Supreme court has upheld the circuit court's handling of the case; the U. S. Supreme court has refused to review the case, and Governor Battle, has turned down the commutation of the death sentences.

The Death Penalty For Rape

27e(2)
Va

Occasionally, when tragic incidents happen, such as the Martinville rape case, we take time out to hurriedly suggest Negroes are more severely penalized than white men for the same and identical crime.

But the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc., has done a more comprehensive and adequate job than we have ever attempted in presenting this sorry picture of race bias to the nation in a release sent out from the New Orleans November 17. No one condones the crime of rape, but we do feel that the color of a man's skin should have nothing to do with the degree of punishment meted out by government.

Read the statement below and we are sure you will reach the conclusion that justice peeps over her glasses quite frequently when the crime of rape is committed. It follows:

"The death penalty for rape is a race penalty—an oppressive bludgeon used almost exclusively against the Negro in the South.

"This assertion, based on U. S. Centus Bureau figures, was made by the Southern Conference Educational Fund of New Orleans in a letter asking clemency for seven Martinville, Virginia Negroes condemned to death on charges of raping a white woman. The executions are scheduled for February 2 and 5. The Negroes are: John Clabon Taylor, Joe Henry Hampton, Francis D. Grayson, Booker T. Millner, James Luther Hairston, Howard Lee Hairston and Frank Hairston jr.

"To supplement the evidence offered by NAACP defense counsel to the effect that no white man has ever been executed for rape in Virginia, the Conference, in a request to Governor John S. Battle cited government records which showed:

Black Dispatch

"1. In the 13 Southern states, during the period 1938-48, 15 whites were executed for rape—as opposed to 187 Negroes.

"2. In the same region, for the same period, 219 whites were executed for murder; 475 Negroes.

Sat. 12-2-50

"3. If death penalties imposed for any crime, 51.3 per cent of the whites ultimately gained commutations—only 39.1 per cent of the Negroes were so favored.

Oklahoma City

"In view of the fact that the 1940 census showed that Negroes made up only 23.8 per cent of the total population of the three Southern census divisions, we think that judicial bias and undue severity toward the Negro defendant might reasonably be deduced," the Conference wrote.

"In regard to the offense with which these youths are charged, we can think of none other which better epitomizes the outworn traditional prejudice which tilts the scales of justice against their race. As several authorities in the field of race relations have observed, there is a 'rape complex' in the South—a hangover from the romantic Civil War culture—which leads to every attempt by the Negro to better himself being interpreted as an insult to Southern Womanhood. How many guileful and neurotic white women have played upon this atavistic social feeling—and at what a cost of innocent lives!

"Therefore we respectfully request that you review the aforementioned case with compassion, keeping in find the Negro's poignant quest for equality before the law, in your state and throughout the South. Should you decide to mitigate the sentences pronounced upon these seven, it will be an act proclaiming the reality of democracy and progress in Virginia, in the South, in America."

8099

Martinsville Dreading Direst Tragedy in History--Execution of 7 Doomed Boys

Afro American 7-29-50

27 e(2) VA

Society to Kill Victims of Surroundings

Unless Governor Commutes Their Sentences

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third and final article in the series of special features on the "Seven Martinsville Boys," by Sherman Briscoe, Alice Dunnigan and Oscar Haynes, the latter a reporter for the AFRO-AMERICAN.)

MARTINSVILLE, Va.— The biggest and saddest mass funeral this town will have ever witnessed may be held on the first Sunday in August, should it be necessary to hold the last rites for the seven Martinsville boys at five local churches.

Of course, the boys are not dead yet; but four of them are slated to walk to the electric chair in the Virginia State Prison, next Friday, and the other three are scheduled to follow a week later, unless Gov. John Battle commutes their sentences.

They are doomed to die for the alleged criminal attack of Mrs. Ruby Floyd, a 32-year-old white woman, on the evening of Jan. 8, 1949.

Whole Community Blamed

Funeral services for these boys will be no ordinary rites; they will be more than that— more like obsequies for the whole town, for whose sins of omission these boys have been condemned to die.

What kind of town is Martinsville? some have asked. It's a town of 20,000, situated 50 miles south of Roanoke, with its shoulder pressed against the knee of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

It's a textile mill and furniture factory town; it's a one-block town— the Baldwin Block—where its 5,000 colored inhabitants seem to gather every Saturday night to make love and even scores.

Dr. D. O. Baldwin, who owns the block, spends most of his nights sewing up wounds that heal on the outside. But there are wounds that his suture cannot reach— wounds of spirit. The mill workers, who are last hired, first fired and never promoted, try to soothe these with whiskey and beer in a dry county.

Abounds in Mulattos

Martinsville is half-white, and almost every other colored person you meet is named Hairston — named for Watt Hairston and his clan who ruled this town when it was a mere commissary for his slaves.

Yes, the town is half-white. Makes you think that, well, there's been a lot of criminal attacking going on here.

People ask what about the schools and recreational facilities for colored boys and girls? Well, since the old school burned down over a year ago, the high school youngsters have been having class in halls and defunct night clubs.

However, the new school promises to be modern and a first step toward achievement of separate but equal facilities.

Drinking People's Outlet

The youngsters have their recreation in the Baldwin block, seeing western movies and drinking wine and beer. Mothers of the Martinsville boys have no qualms about telling you that their 18-year-old sons had been drinking on the night of the alleged crime.

Drinking is part of the recreation like the loose living, which results in the town having more that its share of illegitimate children.

The town will turn out for the funeral. And most of the people will be genuinely sad. They don't want the boys to die.

William T. Alexander, an attorney, told the Capital Press Club committee that both white and colored people of Martinsville were opposed to the death sentences. They make everybody feel guilty in a community where sex is taken for granted outside of wedlock.

Boys Normal Residents

But the preachers will do their job. They will tell their listeners about James and Howard Hairston, brothers, who were converted in prison.

They will tell about Frank Hairston, no relation to the brothers, who helped his father keep their little cottage painted and prim. Frank's 104-year-old grandmother will strain to hear what the preacher says.

Then there's Booker T. Millner, who tried to enlist in the Army three months before the night of Jan. 8, but who was turned down. Ironically, he took a job sketching name designs on tombstones for a monument company. Soon, he may have a tombstone over his 20-year-old body.

A skirt of woods and a brook away, lived John Taylor with his widowed mother. His father died when he was seven and a few years later, he took a job in a tobacco warehouse to help keep things going, Altogether, he has six brothers and sisters.

Then there are Joe Hampton and Francis Grayson. The latter isn't a boy. He is a father of five children.

Might Have Been You

When the ministers preach the funeral of these boys who went to trial without a lawyer, except the ones furnished by the State, they are bound to think of the hundreds of other boys in this town which provides few guidepost for colored youths, but which exacts a heavy penalty of those who err.

It's a "knock on any door" proposition in Martinsville. These boys committed their first sin when they selected this town to be born in. This week and next they are scheduled to pay for their folly.

But, somehow as we take a look at the hollow on the fringe of the town where these boys lived and where they probably will be buried, we can't help saying: "Gosh. it might have been you."

Praying Nightly for God's Mercy

RICHMOND

James Smith, chairman of the Virginia Committee to Save the Martinsville Seven, released on Monday copies of letters received from four of the seven men now in the death house at Virginia penitentiary under sentence for criminally attacking a white woman.

Afro American

According to Mr. Smith, the letters came in reply to letters of greetings sent to all seven of the men as the result of action taken by a State-wide conference sponsored by his committee here on Nov. 19.

Jul 12-16 '50

Afro American

Text of the letters from the men follow:

Dear Friend: I received your letter yesterday and was very glad to hear from you and also to hear that you and your committee are doing all you can for our freedom.

27 e(2)

"I'm doing pretty good and praying that God will bless all that work for our freedom.

Grateful to Gov. Battle

"I'm also glad to hear that you know as well as a lot of more people know that we are innocent. We was very glad to hear about the stay the governor granted also.

Va

"If the facts of this case were brought out, I don't think as many people would be against us as they are. We have been treated all right so far.

"I guess you have written to our parents, haven't you? If you haven't, I would appreciate it very much. So I guess thats all I have to say except that I thank you ever so much for what you are doing for us and pray that God will give you strength to win our freedom."

BOOKER T. MILLNER

Dear Sir: "Your letter found the seven of us well at this time, and truly hope this letter will find you the same.

"It gave me great peace of mind to receive such a letter as yours, and to know that the good American Citizens are fighting so hard for our freedom which we so truthfully deserve.

"You ask if there were anything you could do for me. Sir, you and the other good American people have did so much for me and the other six men, I don't know how we will ever be able to thank you enough.

Please Keep Up Fight

My only plea now is, please keep up the good work and please don't give up the fight, because freedom for us will mean freedom for all good American citizens who love and want justice for all mankind.

"I will be praying that you and the other good Americans will be successful in the fight for justice which will mean freedom for us as well as the entire colored race."

JOHN C. TAYLOR

Dear Sir: "I received your letter with the greatest feeling and we are thanking you and all who are looking into our cases and really hope you will succeed in doing so.

"I will be praying night and day for you all and keep my faith in God and you all. We have reading of the Bible every night and is praying all that we know how for God to make a way for us all.

'I have five children and a wife and I have never been in any trouble before. I always have been a working man and I don't really no what caused all of this with which I am charged.

"I do know it has no right to be like this, so we all are asking in Jesus name for you all who can help us. We will be mighty thankful. I thank you again for writing me and hoping you will be successful. I thank you kindly."

FRANCIS DeS GRAYSON

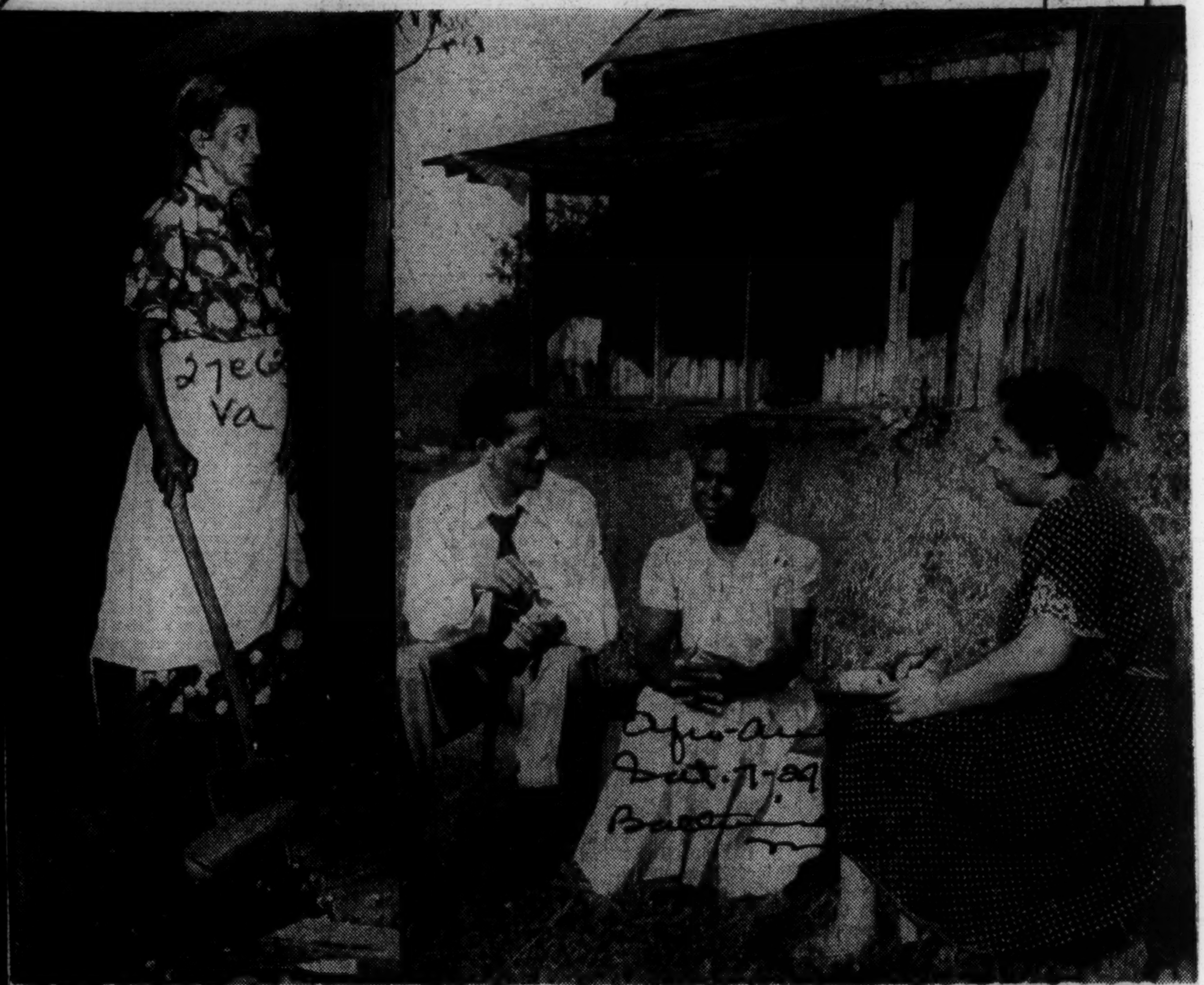
Dear Friend: "I'm writing to let you know that I received the letter which you wrote me and also to let you know that I do appreciate what you are doing for us.

"I'm praying that God will give you strength to continue to work for our freedom. I have faith in God that by Him and through you our freedom will be won.

"I'm well and have been treated all right so far. I'm glad you know that we're innocent and hope you can prove to the citizens of this State and the rest of the people in this world who are interested to know whether we are guilty or innocent. "So I thank you ever so much for what you are doing for us and pray that God will bless you and help you win."

JAMES L. HAIRSTON

Doomed Martinsville Youths Called 'Good Boys'


27e6
Va

Afro-Am
Sept. 17-49
Balto., Md.

Mrs. Irene Hodge, center, in right photo, explains to two members of the Martinsville Boys' Committee of the Capital Press Club that although James and Howard Hairston have been charged and convicted of raping a 32-year-old white woman, she can not believe it because "they were good boys." The mother of the two brothers died when they were little boys and they were reared by their aunt, Mrs. Hodge. The ramshackle house in the background was the home of the two boys who along with five other youths are scheduled to die in the electric chair unless Virginia Gov. John Battle commutes their sentences. Pictured with Mrs. Hodge are, Oscar Haynes, president of the Capital Press Club, and Mrs. Alice Dunnigan, member of the executive committee. Chopping wood is one of the many back-breaking chores that has become part of the every day life of Mrs. Jennie Taylor, 60, in left photo, since the arrest and conviction of her son, John, another of the doomed Martinsville 7. The boys father died when he was seven.

Says Death Penalty For Rape Is Reserved For Colored Men

Call Aug 15-49

Kansas City, Mo.

27e(2)

RICHMOND, Va. — (NNPA) — Counsel for seven colored youths of Martinsville, Va., who are under sentence of death for raping a white woman, last Friday charged that the pardon of a white man similarly sentenced in 1939 proved conclusively that the death penalty in such cases is reserved for colored men.

Attorney General J. Lindsay Almond Jr., in an answer to an order to show cause why a writ of habeas corpus should not be issued for the seven men, denied that the death penalty was reserved by Virginia courts and juries for colored men, as charged.

Almond said that on Aug. 21, 1939, Dimps Ricker, a white man, was found guilty of rape and sentenced to death by an Appomattox County Circuit Court jury.

State prison officials said records show that Ricker's death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Governor James Price on Sept. 20, 1939, and that he was pardoned on Aug. 1, 1946.

Commenting on Almond's reply, Martin A. Martin, attorney for the seven Martinsville men, said: "This shows conclusive evidence that the judiciary, the executive and the legislature have consistently rendered white men immune from execution for rape and reserved the death penalty for colored men."

Judge M. Ray Doubles of Hustings Court, Part II, last Thursday set Sept. 30 as a tentative date for a hearing on the show-cause order on a writ of habeas corpus.

Youth Claims Woman Invited Visi

Alleged Rapist, 19, Draws Sixty Years

~~Comm.~~

Sat. 3-18-50 27e(2) Va

APPOMATTOX, Va.—A Circuit Court jury convicted Arthur Bigelow, a 19-year-old laborer, of a charge of attempting to rape a white woman and set his punishment at 60 years in the state penitentiary.

Pittsburgh Pa

The woman, 33-year-old wife of a farmer of the Evergreen community, near here, the mother of eight children, she said Bigelow entered her home the afternoon of Jan. 31, threatened her with a fish knife and tried to choke her. She said he fled when she shouted for help. The woman said she had seen Bigelow for the first time that morning in a nearby store.

Bigelow, who pleaded not guilty, said he first met the woman about eighteen months ago, in Lynchburg. He said they had talked privately earlier in the day and that she had invited him to her home. While he was there, Bigelow said, they heard a noise and the woman, thinking it was her husband returning home, shouted, "rape!"

Defense Atty. Jack Snoddy made a motion to set aside the verdict on the ground that Judge Joel Flood should not have answered the jury when it came back into the court room and asked when the State Parole Board could release Bigelow for good behavior.

The judge said he will hear arguments on the motion later this month.

Alexandrian Acquitted of Rape Charge

Va 27e(2)

Leslie T. Freeman, Alexandria warehouseman, was cleared in Alexandria Corporation Court yesterday of raping a 34-year-old widow last October 13.

Post

He was acquitted by Judge William P. Wools, who took the case under advisement last Wednesday after an all-day hearing behind closed doors.

Wed.

Freeman, 49, was described by his attorney, Walter I. Young, as "a highly respected member of Alexandria's Negro community." He was accused of raping Mrs. Opal Marie Burton when she went to the warehouse where Freeman was employed to reclaim some papers belonging to her late husband.

4-12-50 Washington D.C.

The defendant denied the charge during the trial. He insisted he merely helped Mrs. Burton from the warehouse to her home at a nearby hotel because, he contended, she had been drinking.

Woolls said that in the face of conflicting claims, had found insufficient evidence to warrant a conviction. He also noted he found "some discrepancies" in the testimony of the complainant.

The complainant in the case, who lived at the Belvoir Hotel in Alexandria at the time of the incident, has since moved to North Carolina.

Appealed to High Court

'Martinsville Seven' Get Ninety-Day Reprieves

~~Courier~~ Sat. 6-3-50 Pittsburgh Pa.

27e(2) Va.

RICHMOND—The "Martinsville seven," sentenced to death for attack on a white woman, have received ninety-day reprieves from Gov. John S. Battle in order to give the United States Supreme Court time in which to review their appeals.

Four of the men, Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston Jr., Booker T. Millner and Howard Lee Hairston were to have died in the state's electric chair here May 26. Governor Battle's stays of execution set their deaths for July 28.

The others, Francis DeSales Grayson, James Luther Hairston and John Clabon Taylor, were to have been executed. Battle's action fixed August 4 as the new death date in their cases.

REPRIEVES APPROVED

The reprieves were granted on advice from Attorney General J. Lindsay Almond Jr.

The seven were convicted on charges of criminal attack on Mrs. Ruby Stroud Floyd, 32-year-old wife of a Martinsville merchant, on Jan. 8, 1949. They were convicted at a series of trials that began the following April 22 and continued through May 2.

On May 3, all seven were sentenced to die last July, but appeals to the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals stayed the executions.

Last March 13 that court affirmed the judgments of the Martinsville Circuit Court. Subsequently, the latter court set the new death dates.

The appeals to the United States Supreme Court — applications for the highest court to hear the cases argued — are being handled by the Richmond law firm, Hill, Martin and Robinson, for the Virginia Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

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Martinsville '7' Review Refused

~~Daily World~~

27e(2) Va

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The Supreme Court last Monday turned down the application of seven colored youths of Martinsville, Virginia, for a review of their conviction on a charge of raping a 32-year-old Martinsville housewife.

The seven men are under sentence of death. The action of the high tribunal leaves them with only the final hope of executive clemency to escape the electric chair. Four of them are slated to die July 26 and the other three on August 4.

Governor John S. Battle of Virginia, has the power to pardon the men or commute their sentence to life imprisonment.

Jun. 6-9-50

As is customary, the Supreme Court gave no reason for refusing to review the case but simply denied the petition, which alleged that "an atmosphere of prejudice and hostility" existed against the petitioners in the Martinsville area where the trial was held.

Atlanta Ga.

The men had been granted 60-day reprieves by Governor Battle to permit the Supreme Court to act on their petition.

Four of them — Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston, Jr., Booker T. Miller and Howard Lee Hairston — were slated to die on May 26, but Governor Battle's action postponed their executions until July 28.

The other three — Francis DeSales Grayson, John Clabon Taylor and James Luther Hairston —were scheduled to die August 4.

The crime for which the men were convicted occurred last January 8 alongside a railroad track on the outskirts of Martinsville. The victim said she was on her way to collect money for some clothing she had sold when the the seven men attacked her.

Supreme Court Rejects Plea To Review Martinsville Case

Times-Dispatch

27e(2)

WASHINGTON, June 5—The Supreme Court of the United States today refused to review the trial of seven Martinsville, Va., Negroes under death sentences on a charge of raping a white, 32-year-old Martinsville housewife.

Jun. Va.

The action of the court leaves the seven men with only the final hope of executive clemency to escape the electric chair. Four of them are slated to die July 28 and the other three on August 4.

6-6-50 Richmond Va.

Governor Battle has the power to pardon the men or commute their sentences to life imprisonment.

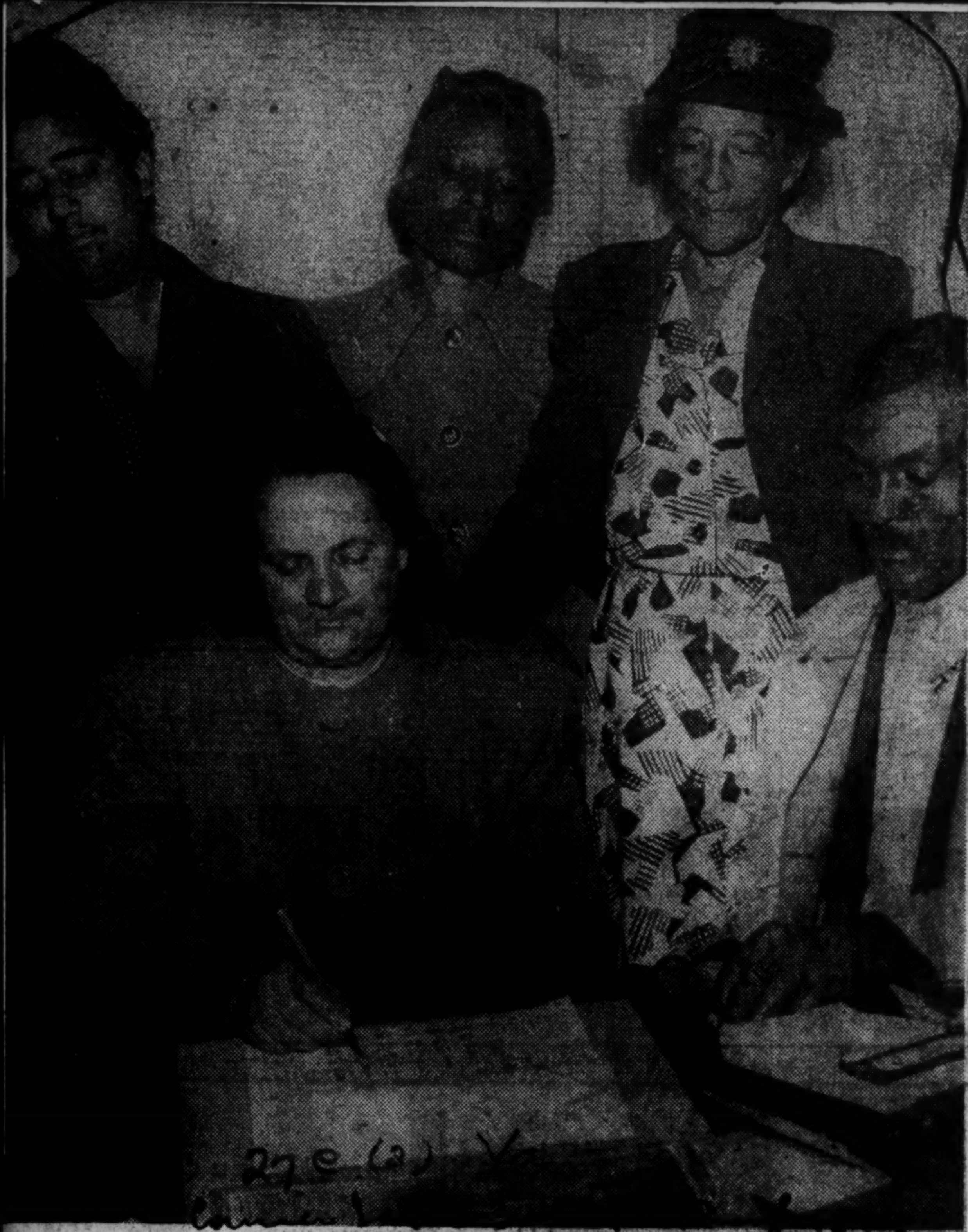
The Supreme Court made no comment on the case today, simply rejecting the petition for review, which alleged that "an atmosphere of prejudice and hostility" existed against the defendants in the Martinsville area.

Governor Battle granted the men 60-day reprieves two weeks ago to permit presentation of their petition to the Supreme Court.

Four of the men—Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston, Jr., Booker T. Miller and Howard Lee Hairston—were slated to die May 26, but the Governor's action postponed their executions until July 28.

The other three—Francis DeSales Grayson, John Clabon Taylor and James Luther Hairston—were scheduled to die June 2, but the reprieve postponed the date until August 4.

The crime for which the Negroes were convicted occurred January 8 last year alongside a railroad track on the outskirts of Martinsville. The victim said she was on her way to collect money for some clothing she had sold when the seven men attacked her.



27C(2) Va

Courier

Parents of Doomed Men —

Parents of the seven doomed men who were sentenced to die here for criminally attacking a Martinsville white woman saw a flickering ray of hope in a short reprieve granted by Virginia's Governor John S. Battle last week. Scheduled date for execution for four of the men set for May 26 was moved up until July 28, and the June 2 date for the execution of the other three moved up to Aug. 4. Seated are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hairston, mother and father of Frank Jr., and standing, left to right, are Mrs. Ida Millner, mother of Booker T. Millner; Mrs. Irene Hodge, aunt of James Luther and Howard Lee Hairston, and Mrs. Jennie Taylor, grandmother of John H. Claiborne. Parents of the others were not present.—Rivera Photo.

HIGH COURT RULE SOUGHT

Times

Review Will Be Asked of Seven Virginia Death Sentences

Mon. 4-10-50

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MARTINSVILLE, Va., April 9—The Virginia Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has decided to ask the United States Supreme Court to review the conviction of seven Negroes condemned to die for criminally attacking Mrs. Ruby Floyd of this city fifteen months ago.

27C(2)

Va

New York

Martin A. Martin, a member of the legal staff of the organization, said he also had asked Judge Kennon Whittle to defer fixing a new execution date until May.

If the Supreme Court decides to review the case, a stay of sentence probably would be automatic. The Supreme Court would rule only on aspects of Federal law, since the Virginia Supreme Court has passed on questions of Virginia law by unanimously upholding the trial court convictions and sentences.

Mr. Martin contended that the seven defendants were not provided with proper constitutional safeguards and that their trial was not fair.

New Issue Raised In Martinsville Case

Journal and Guide

FOR the first time in a criminal case, the United States Supreme Court is asked to consider unequal sentences for Negro and white defendants as a basis of granting a review of lower court decisions.

The request is contained in a petition filed in the court last week on behalf of the seven men of Martinsville (Va.), condemned to death for rape.

Sat. 12-2-50

In the petition, lawyers for the defense, retained by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, contend that in this state the death penalty for rape is reserved for Negroes convicted of committing this crime upon white women, and that white men are immune from such penalty for similar offenses.

Norfolk, Va

The attorneys assert that this is a situation which creates a "double standard" of prosecutions in these cases in Virginia, and therefore effected a violation of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution in the conviction of the defendants. They are asking for a review of the action of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals which dismissed their complaint.

27C(2)

The attorneys have marshalled some imposing facts gleaned from penitentiary records, which lend heavy weight to their "double standard" contention. It is shown that since 1907, 809 white men have been sentenced to the penitentiary for rape or other sex offenses, but not one of this number has paid with his life for the crime.

Va

On the other hand, the records disclose that since 1908 there have been 1,081 Negroes sentenced to the state prison for similar crmies and, of that number, 45 were actually executed.

Whether or not the high court should consider the defense allegations of sufficient merit to cause that body to acceed to the petitioners' request, the public is not likely to be convinced that Virginia is not adhering to a two-way policy in dealing out punishment for the type of crime.

The records are meaningful. They tell the story of a double standard tendency which had its inception in a law enacted prior to 1865, that provided a greater penalty for sex offenses by Negroes than by whites.

Whatever the ultimate outcome of the Martinsville case, it has served to call critical attention to this state's manner of punishing sex offenders according to the racial elements involved.

Virginia Denies Double Penalties In Rape Cases

Va.   27e(2)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — The "Martinsville Seven" have failed to prove that the Virginia rape statute is administered in such a manner as to deprive them on the equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, J. Lindsay Almond, Jr., Attorney General for Virginia, declared in a brief filed in the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Almond is asking the high tribunal to dismiss the petition of the seven youths who are under sentence of death for raping a white woman in Martinsville, Virginia, January 8, 1949.

The youths are seeking a review of the judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia upholding the denial of petitions for writs of habeas corpus to gain new trials on the ground that the death sentences imposed upon them are null and void under the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

* * *

MR. ALMOND ARGUES in his brief that the contention of the youths that Virginia courts and juries sentence colored men to death for rape but never so sentence white men is without merit.

Records of reported cases in Virginia, he asserts, show that instructions given by the trial courts in rape cases involving both white and colored men followed the law and prescribed all the possible punishments, including death.

Regardless of the actions of past juries, he maintains, the question is whether the seven prisoners have been denied due process of law by the several juries which fixed their punishment at death.

THERE IS NO evidence that the juries discriminated against them, he declares. There is not a scintilla of evidence, he adds, to indicate that the color of the youths orthe fact that the victim was white influenced the juries in fixing their punishment.

It is completely hostile to the jury system to argue that persons convicted of the same offense should receive the same punishment without considering the heinousness of the offense and the extenuating circumstances, Mr. Almond states.

Since the Martinsville youths have failed to show that white persons have been guilty of offenses of equal atrociousness as that committed by them the evidence relating to the imposition of the death penalty upon colored men only is without value.

* * *

THE YOUTHS CONTEND that the death penalty in rape cases in Virginia is reserved exclusively for colored men.

Since 1908, when executions began to be carried out at the State Penitentiary and records were kept, fifty-three colored men have been sentenced to death for rape. Of that number, forty-four have been executed and nine have had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment. During the same period only one white man has been sentenced to death for rape, and his sentence commuted to life imprisonment.

The convictions of the seven youth are under attack in the Supreme Court for the second time. They were convicted in the Circuit Court of Martinsville, Virginia, and sentenced to death on May 3, 1949. The Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia affirmed their convictions last May 13. The United States Supreme Court refused to review the case on June 5.

* * *

EACH OF THE petitioners on on July 26, thirty-six hours before four of them were to be executed, filed petitions for writs of habeas corpus in the Hustings Court of Richmond, Part II, alleging that their sentences were null and void because of racial discrimination in the imposition of the death penalty.

That court denied the petitions on Sept 30, and the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia affirmed that judgment last November 3. The youths then appealed to the United States Supreme Court a second time.

27e(2) 1950 Virginia

8102

Families Of Virginia 'Scottsboro Boys' Still Hopeful Governor Will Save Them

Amsterdam News Sat. 7-15-50

MARTINSVILLE, Virginia — It was the 4th of July, but the parents of the seven condemned Martinsville boys were too grief-stricken to celebrate.

27e (2) Va

For them in their wooded hollow on the fringe of this little textile mill and furniture factory town, it was more like Valley Forge during the winter of 1777.

Amsterdam News Sat. 7-15-50 New York, N.Y.

LPC Photo

AIDING THE MARTINSVILLE SEVEN . . . Attorney Martin A. Martin, center, legal representative for the NAACP of Richmond, Va., discusses plans for assisting the seven Martinsville boys who have been sentenced to die in the electric chair for the alleged rape of a white woman, with members of a special committee from the Capital Press Club of Washington, D. C. Pictured left to right, are Oscar Haynes, President of the Press Club; Attorney Martin, and Mrs. Alice Dunnigan, Press Club executive committee member.

As the Capital Press Club committee members approached this isolated community, trudging along a narrow path on foot for an interview of the parents of the boys who face the electric chair for alleged rape, all was quiet.

Read Letters From Boy

Mrs. Jennie Taylor, 60-year old mother of John C. Taylor, sat on the steps of her small cottage, reading and re-reading letters from her boy, who is sentenced to die on August 4.

When she noticed the strangers approaching, she hastily dried her eyes on her sackcloth apron and invited us in.

"When have you been to Richmond to see your boy," she was asked.

"Easter was the last time I saw him," she replied sadly. "But I plan to go up there Sunday, if I can scrape together enough to pay for my share of the ride."

On Independence Day, this little aging woman felt very despondent and downcast. Her youngest child, the one on whom she counted for support, had been in jail for a year-and-a-half and was going to die within a month to the day if Governor John Battle didn't commute his sentence.

A half mile across the woods lived the parents of four of the other boys. We found Booker T. Millner's parents and three of his sisters gathered on the divan in their little modest living room, looking at pictures of him.

Turned Down by Army

"He wanted to get into the army," his 46-year-old father, James Millner, said. "But they turned him down on the physical. Now he's in a heap of trouble."

However, Mrs. Millner still had hope that her son would not die as she explained how the white lady she cooks for and a lot of her friends have been trying to help. "They had even written the governor," she exclaimed. But up to the 4th when people everywhere except in Martinsville were celebrating, they had heard no encouraging word.

The Haristons, parents of 20-year-old Frank Hariston, Jr., were sitting on the porch of their comfortable little home in their everyday clothes. "We haven't got any spirit to do anything today," said Mrs. Hariston, while her two comely daughters stared off into space.

Grandmother Is 104

Across the road, Frank's 104-year-old grandmother strained to hear a good word about her favorite grandson as we explained that the NAACP attorney, Martin A. Martin, had filed a petition for clemency for the seven boys. We don't think she heard us, but perhaps through a sixth sense, she seemed to have understood that there was still hope for her Frank, who along with three others is scheduled to be executed on July 28.

The two brothers involved in the case — Howard and James Hariston — 20 and 21, had lived with an aunt, Mrs. Irene Hodge, who took them in 15 years ago when their mother died. We found her sitting on a bench in front of her shackled house for which she pays $7 a month rent.

Blames Lack of Schooling

"Maybe if I had had a little more to give them so that they could have gone further in school, this wouldn't have happened," she explained. "But you know, I'm just a cook and I don't make much. The boys stopped school in the fourth grade to help me keep things going."

The people in the heart of town, who weren't celebrating either, told us that the whole town—white and colored—sympathized with the boys. They thought the punishment was considerably greater than the crime and they believed that the governor was going to commute the sentences.

It was on the evening of January 8, 1949 that the seven boys are alleged to have raped Mrs. Ruby Floyd, a 32-year-old white woman, who sells secondhand clothes, after she had met them on the railroad track not far from their homes. She is reported to have said to them. "You are good looking boys," and suggested that she needed money to pay her clothing account.

The boys were arrested, tried and convicted in May of 1949. Last March, the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia upheld the verdict, and on May 19, the U. S. Supreme Court refused to review the case on a writ of certiorari.

Now only Governor Battle stands between the seven boys and the electric chair.

So, the 4th came and went, but Martinsville was too sad to celebrate.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was prepared by a committee of the Capital Press Club of Washington: Sherman Briscoe, Alice A. Dunnigan and Oscar Haynes. (Two other articles in the series will follow).

Ponder Step in Va. Case

Afro-American

Dat. 3-25-50

Martinsville 7's Doomed Upheld

27e(2)

Baltimore

RICHMOND, Va.— Martin A. Martin, who defended the seven Martinsville men whose criminal conviction was upheld by the Virginia Supreme Court, says that attorneys are studying the decision "to determine whether to apply for a re-hearing".

Va

Chief Justice Edward W. Hudgins handed down the court's unanimous opinion, which found no reversible error in the Martinsville Circuit Court trials, following whch the seven were condemned to death.

Probe Reveals Facts

The Virginia State NAACP Conference undertook the defense of the young men after investigation revealed that they had not been given a fair and impartial trial.

The NAACP also alleged that the youths were beaten and told to sign confessions to save themselves from mob violence, and that the defense counsel advised their parents "not to say anything" about it.

NAACP attorneys handling the appeal, in addition to Mr. Martin, are Oliver W. Hill and Spottswood W. Robinson 3rd. of Richmond.

Martinsville 7 Lose Fight

RICHMOND, Va. — The "Martinsville Seven" were condemned to death again last week.

Defender

Writs of habeas corpus were denied by Hustings Court M. Ray Doubles. Had they been granted, the writ would have paved the way for new trials for the seven men, doomed to die following convictions on a charge of raping a 32-year-old white woman.

The case of the Martinsville Seven, rapidly gaining nation-wide attention almost equal to that of the Scottsboro Case, has been in the courts since the Spring of 1949.

27e(2)

The convicted men are James L. Hairston, John C. Taylor, Joe H. Hampton, Booker T. Miller, Howard Hairston and Francis Grayston.

Va

Next Move: The United States Supreme Court

'Martinsville 7' Turned Down Agai

RICHMOND, Va.—For the second time the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals refused to save the lives of the seven Martinsville men convicted of raping a white woman.

27e(2)

Meeting in special session—a quite unusual happening—the high court unanimously rejected a plea for writs of habeas corpus.

Courier

Va

Martin A. Martin, of Richmond, principal attorney for the defendants, immediately said he will appeal to the United States Supreme Court for a writ of ceritorari. If that court does not act in time to prevent electrocutions of the defendants, Martin said he will ask Governor Battle for stays of execution.

Dat. 11-11-50

Martin argued that the death penalty in Virginia is reserved solely for Negroes in rape cases because no white man has ever been electrocuted for that crime, while forty-five Negroes have been electrocuted.

Pittsburgh

Pa

Justice John W. Eggleston said that Martin's plea, in effect, was that no Negroes should be electrocuted unless a similar number of white men are put to death.

Martin's aide, S. W. Tucker, of Emporia, argued that Virginia has never repealed its pre-Civil War law providing the death penalty for Negroes, but exempting whites.

Four of the defendants are scheduled to die here Nov. 17, the other three Nov. 20.

In Va. If He's White, It's Not Rape

Defender. Dat. 12

SMITHFIELD, Va. — An all-white jury here acquitted a white mill worker of a charge of raping a 16-year-old girl.

The defendent, William D. Whitley, of Orbit, Va., admitted having intimate relations with the girl, a ninth grade pupil, but said she willingly submitted.

27e(2)

Dat. 12-9-50 Va

The girl declared that Whitley came to her house and asked her to go with him and sit with his mother while he and his wife went to a party. On the way to Whitley's house, the girl said, he pulled his car off the road, took a pistol from the glove compartment, forced her to disrobe and then attacked her.

Chicago

She said Whitley drove her back to her house, making up a story en route to tell her parents to explain her early return, and left after letting her out of his car.

What About Others?

Free Man In Dixie Rape Case

Courier

Dat. 12-9-50

SMITHFIELD, Va. — An all-white jury here acquitted a white mill worker of a charge of raping a 16-year-old Negro girl.

The defendant, William D. Whitley, of Orbit, Va., admitted having intimate relations with the girl, a ninth-grade pupil, but said she willingly participated.

Pittsburgh

Pa

The girl declared that Whitley came to her house and asked her to go with him and sit with his mother until 11 P. M. while he and his wife went to a party. On the way to Whitley's house, the girl said, he pulled his car off the road, took a pistol from the glove compartment, forced her to disrobe and then attacked her.

27e(2)

She said Whitley drove her back to her house, making up a story en route to tell her parents to explain her early return, and left after letting her out of his car.

Va

8103

Martinsville Seven

Virginia Judge Says Accused Men May Have Been Denied Equal Protection

RICHMOND, Va.—Saved by a last minute reprieve, the seven young men of Martinsville sentenced to die for alleged rape, gained new hope as attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People prepared further legal steps to win freedom for the accused.

A hearing on the writ of habeas corpus filed by NAACP Attorney Martin A. Martin was set for September 7 in the Hustings court of the City of Richmond by Judge M. Ray Doubles who, on July 26, ordered stays of execution for the men, four of whom were doomed to die on July 28 and three on August 4.

8-4-50

The NAACP petition contends that the death penalty for rape is discriminatory in that it has been imposed exclusively upon Negroes. In support of this contention, Mr. Martin submitted a letter from W. Frank Smyth, superintendent of the Virginia State Penitentiary affirming that no white man had ever been electrocuted in Virginia either for rape or attempted rape.

Declaring such discrimination a violation of the 14th amendment, the petition asks the court to declare the judgement of conviction and the sentence of death void and to discharge the prisoners from further action under that judgment.

Prior to ratification of the 14th amendment, Mr. Martin said, Virginia law specifically reserved the death penalty for Negroes in convictions for rape of white women while imposing only imprisonment upon white men so convicted. After adoption of the amendment, racial references were removed from the statute which was changed to provide imprisonment or death as a maximum penalty. Despite this change in the language of the law, Mr. Martin charged, Virginia courts have continued the antebellum practice—imprisonment for white men, death for Negroes.

Martin, the NAACP attorney handling the case, took the plea to the Richmond Hustings court, Part II, late Wednesday afternoon immediately after Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton had granted a 90-day stay of execution for Willie McGee, who was charged with the rape of Mrs. Troy Hawkins of Laurel, Miss.

Four of the seven Martinsville were scheduled to die Friday, July 28, and the other three, on Aug. 4. The first four on the death list were Joe Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston Jr., Booker T. Millner and Howard Hairston The other three were Francis DeSales Grayson, John C. Taylor and James Luther Hairston.

Death sentences were given to these seven men for the alleged rape of the 32-yar-old white woman in January, 1949. The conviction of the lower court was upheld by the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, and in May the U. S. Supreme court refused to review the case.

Atty. Martin and a number of Negro and white citizens of Virginia appealed to Gov. Battle on July 7, asking that he commute the sentence from death to life imprisonment.

Gov. Battle Searches Conscience

In a lengthy statement handed down by the Governor last Monday, he definitely rejected the counsel's plea. After reviewing the evidence he said, "I have searched the records and my own conscience without find any circumstances upon which I could rely in setting aside the findings of the court in any of these cases. I have no course, therefore, other than to deny the prayer of the petition."

The day following the announcement of the governor's decision, Mrs. Josephine Grayson, the mother of five children and the wife of Francis Grayson, one of the condemned men, brought her plea directly to the White House gate in hope that President Truman, Atty. Gen. Howard McGrath, or some of the senators or congressmen would take some action to save the life of her husband.

8-4-50

She was joined in this plea with Mrs. Rosalee McGee, the mother of four children and the wife of Willie McGee who was also scheduled to die in the electric chair in Jackson, Miss. on Thursday, July 27. McGee was finally granted a 90-day stay by Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton, until a petition for a writ of certiorari is disposed of by that court.

President Truman received a cablegram from Hongkong, China, on Tuesday asking him to take some action in the McGee case. The wire was received at the White House while the wives of the two supposedly innocent condemned men were trying to get an audience with some member of the White House staff to register a plea for the lives of their husbands.

Judge Denies Writ To 7 in Rape Case

27e(2) Va

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 5 (AP).—Writs of hapeas corpus were denied today by Judge M. Ray Doubles to seven Martinsville Negroes sentenced to death for raping a white woman.

In an eight-page opinion, the Hustings Court, Part II judge ordered vacated stays of execution for the men. He also stipulated that "new dates for execution of the sentences imposed upon the petitioners should be set in the manner provided by law."

10-6-50

Martin A. Martin, counsel for the men, said his future plans are indefinite.

"We can't tell yet what we will do until after we see the opinion," he said. Judge Doubles heard arguments on the petitions last Saturday.

Martin, however, has two more legal avenues he can explore. He can give new life to the case by appealing Judge Doubles' decision to the Virginia Supreme Court. If this fails, he then can go to the United States Supreme Court.

The cases already have been reviewed by the State Supreme Court and the trial court convictions affirmed. Efforts by Martin to have the United States Supreme Court hear the cases were unsuccessful.

Counsel for the seven based their petitions for writs of habeas corpus on the contention that the death sentence for rape in Virginia is reserved exclusively for Negroes.

The Negroes obtained a 60-day delay last Friday.

Harlem Reds Hail Stay for 7 Negroes

Some 300 persons took part in a Harlem "victory celebration" last night to hail a stay of execution granted seven Virginia Negroes convicted of rape.

11-15-50

The meeting was sponsored by the New York Civil Rights Congress, an affiliate of the national organization which is the legal defense arm of the Communist party.

'Martinsville'

Last Ditch Fight For Doomed 7

RICHMOND, Va.—New death dates for the "Martinsville seven" were set while the latest court decision in their case was being appealed to the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

10-21-50

In Martinsville Circuit Court, Judge [illegible] Whittle fixed the new execution dates as Nov. 17 and Nov. 20. In setting those dates, Judge Whittle granted a request by a defense attorney that the new death dates not be set prior to Nov. 17.

The defense attorney is Martin A. Martin of Richmond.

FILES APPEAL

27e(2)

A few hours before Judge Whittle set the new execution dates, Martin filed an appeal in Hustings Court, Part II, in Richmond. Several days before, Judge M. Ray Doubles, of that court, had refused to grant writs of habeas corpus for the seven defendants.

Judge Whittle directed that four of the men be electrocuted Nov. 17. They are Henry Hampton, Frank Hairston Jr., and Booker T .Millner, all 21, and Howard Lee Hairston, 22.

The three scheduled to be put to death Nov. 20 are Francis DeSales Grayson, 38; John Clabon Taylor, 21, and James Luther Hairston, also 21.

NEGROES ONLY

Martin based his plea to Judge Doubles on the ground that the death penalty in rape cases in Virginia is reserved solely for Negro men who rape white women.

Martinsville Case Reversed

'Justice' Mulls Case 3 Days Before Acting

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — A 21-year-old white service station attendant was held last Monday for the county grand jury on charges of criminally assaulting a 26-year-old colored mother of five children near here last Sept. 8

He is Vernon Firth, who is free in $10,000 bail furnished by his parents, to await arraignment during the January term of the grand jury.

27e(2) Va

He was ordered held by County Trial Justice M. H. MacBryde, who had mulled the case from the time of the hearing, Friday, until Monday, before ordering the man held.

(Martinsville is the town from which seven colored youths were arrested, given speedy trials and condemned to death for the alleged criminal atack upon a white woman some months previously.)

Pulled Away From Children

Mrs. Lillian Lee Roy, the victim of the attack, testified that Firth dragged her out of her automobile in which two of her own small children and one of her neighbor's were passengers, tore off some of her clothing, threw her to the ground and criminally attacked her.

She said she managed to elude him "after a few minutes," and fled to a neighboring farmer's house, with Firth chasing her.

She was carried by the farm owner to a telephone some distance away, she testified, where she called the sheriff's office and entered a complaint describing Firth.

Firth Enters Countercharge

Shortly thereafter, according to sheriff office deputies, Firth came into the jail and complained that "a colored woman had threatened him with a gun." He was arrested and charged after no weapon was found at the spot where the supposed gun play occurred.

Defense Attorney W. R. Broaddus Jr. attempted to show that the ravishment of Mrs. Roy was voluntary, by cross-questioning her over the facts that she had not screamed, struck or bitten Firth during the atack.

She said under direct examination that she was so frightened that she could not scream, adding that after Firth commandeered her then-stalled car with the three children in it, he drove into a side road.

27e(2)

Taxicab Follows Car

He got out of the machine, she testified, and pulled her out by the right arm. He then grabbed her by the left arm with both hands and pulled her off the road into some woods, she stated.

She said that one reason she was afraid was the fact that a taxicab had followed the car from the service station to near where the attack took place.

Floyd Jamerson, a taxicab operator, later testified that he had been hired by Firth to drive him to the place where he had boarded the Roy machine earlier that day, and that Firth ordered him to follow him after he had entered the automobile, ostensibly to help get the motor started.

Defendent Drunk, He Says

Jamerson said he did not follow the car down the side road, but parked and waited some distance away for from 35 to 40 minutes.

He said he then went back to where the car was parked and saw the three children there. Firth, he

dded, then showed up in a few minutes with the story that th "woman pulled a gun on him an made him drive down that road."

"Firth was pretty high," Jamerson testified.

Martinsville 7 Case

Unequal Jail Terms Enter Into Rape Trial

Courier 27e(2)

NEW YORK — For the first time in a criminal case, the United States Supreme Court has been asked to consider unequal sentences for Negro and white defendants as a basis for granting a review of lower court decisions in the case of the Martinsville Seven, Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, said this week.

12-2-50

The issue was raised in the second petition for certiorari filed on Nov. 18 with the Supreme Court on behalf of the Martinsville victims. Charged with the rape of a white woman in Martinsville, Va., the seven men were convicted in May, 1949, in separate one-day trials. Their convictions were affirmed by the Supreme Court of Virginia in March, 1950, and the U. S. Supreme Court refused to review the judgments on June 5, 1950.

Pittsburgh Pa.

The second petition asking for a Supreme Court review of the sentence is based solely upon the question of the unequal method of sentencing white and Negro defendants in Virginia. Since 1908 the petition alleges, 1,081 Negroes have been sentenced to the penitentiary for rape, attempted rape or statutory rape.

45 EXECUTED

Fifty-three of these were sentenced to death and forty-five executed. Of the 809 white men convicted of these crimes since 1907, only one has been sentenced to death and his sentence was promptly commuted to life imprisonment. He was later pardoned.

"It is clear," the petition says, "that the death penalty for rape or attempted rape is now and always has been in Virginia reserved solely for Negroes convicted of rape or attempted rape upon white women. White men have always had an immunity from such penalty."

The petition further points out that prior to the Civil War this discrimination was imbedded in the law of Virginia. Although with the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment this provision was removed, according to NAAC attorneys, "administration of the law was continued as though this change had never taken place."

27e(2)

REJECT PETITION

Following rejection of the first petition for review of the case, Martin A. Martin and S. W. Tucker, NAACP lawyers, of Richmond on July 26, 1950, filed a petition for habeas corpus in the Hustings Court of Richmond, alleging the conviction and sentence of death of these men were unlawful because of discrimination in the administration of the law.

The writ was denied and the Supreme Court of Virginia refused to review the judgment of the lower court. Governor Battle granted a stay of execution pending action by the U. S. Supreme Court.

The present petition and the supporting brief document the law involved in the case, including the laws of Virginia and the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, and request that the Supreme Court review the convictions to determine whether or not the State of Virginia is continuing its ante-bellum practice of reserving the death penalty solely for Negro defendants in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Claims 'Distortion of Facts'

NAACP Counsel Takes CRC To Task on Martinsville '7'

27e(2) Va

NEW YORK—A statement setting forth the actual facts in the case of the Martinsville Seven and taking the Civil Rights Congress to task for its distortion of these facts was released this week by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP.

Courier

Mr. Marshall noted that a press release from the CRC erroneously implies that the stay of execution granted to the seven Martinsville, Va., defendants by Governor John S. Battle, was prompted by the Governor's awareness of a march on Richmond which the group had scheduled "to demand a pardon" for the seven.

12-2-50

Last week Mr. Marshall and Martin A. Martin of Richmond, who are jointly handling the defense in this case, pointed out the dangers of the proposed demonstration at a time when legal action was pending.

APPEAL GRANTED

Mr. Marshall's statement was made following receipt of letters from Governor John S. Battle of Virginia granting the NAACP appeal for stay of execution for each of the defendants.

27e(2)

"It is obvious from Governor Battle's letter," the NAACP counsel stated, "that the stay was granted pursuant to the application of the lawyers for the Martinsville Seven and had nothing whatsoever to do with this proposed march on Richmond, which could only have done more harm for the seven men involved and for the cause of equal justice."

Pittsburgh Pa.

'The truth of the matter is," Mr. Marshall continued, "that Martin A. Martin, who has borne the brunt of the appeals of this case, and others of us on the NAACP staff, have been working on a petition for certiorari to the Supreme Court. Martin applied to Governor Battle for a stay of execution pending the filing of our petition. This appeal was granted on Friday of last week."

27f 1950

8104

Lynching Bill Is Opposed by Southerners

27f

Southern House members yesterday argued against passage of a Federal anti-lynching statute largely on the ground that lynchings have so declined in number that its passage is totally unnecessary.

Post

Several Southern Congressmen appeared before the House Judiciary subcommittee headed by Representative William Byrne (D., N. Y.) which is considering a number of anti-lynching bills.

Wed 1-18-50

Hearings were adjourned yesterday afternoon for one week to give other opponents a chance to submit statements for the record.

Washington D. C.

Tuskegee Institute figures on lynchings were placed in the record. They showed there were three in 1949; two in 1948; one in 1947; six in 1945 and one in 1944, a total of 13 over a five year period.

Favors Lynching

27f

WASHINGTON, N. C. — "I favor lynching in the South because that is the only way to control crime," stated Ola Ray Boyd in his first campaign speech as candidate for the U. S. Senate. He is seeking the seat now held by Senator Frank P. Graham.

3-?-50

How They Voted On Anti-Lynch Amendment

27f

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Following is the roll-call vote by which the Senate last Wednesday on motion of Senator J. William Fulbright, Democrat, of Arkansas, tabled the anti-lynching bill offered by Senator William Langer, Republican, of North Dakota, as an amendment to the bill to repeal federal taxes on oleomargarine:

FOR THE MOTION TO TABLE — 60

DEMOCRATS—45

Anderson, New Mexico; Benton, Connecticut; Douglas, Illinois; Downey, California; Eastland, Mississippe; Ellender, Louisiana; Frear, Delaware; Fulbright, Adkansas; George, Georgia; Gillette, Iowa; Graham, North Carolina; Green, Rhode Island; Hayden, Arizona; Hill, Alabama; Hoey, North Carolina.

Holland, Florida; Johnson, Colorado; Johnson, Texas; Johnston, South Carolina; Humphrey, Minnesota; Kefauver, Tennessee; Kilgore, West Virginia; Leahy, Rhode Island; Lehman, New York; Long, Louisiana; Lucas, Illinois; McClellan, Arkansas; McKellar, Tennessee; McMahon, Connecticut; McFarland, Arizona.

1-22-50

Atlanta

Magnuson, Washington; Maybank, South Carolina; Murray, Montana; Myers, Pennsylvania; Neely, West Virginia; O'Conor, Maryland; O'Mahoney, Wyoming; Pepper, Florida; Russell, Georgia; Sparkman, Alabama; Taylor, Idaho; Thomas, Oklahoma; Thomas, Utah; Tydings, Maryland; Withers, Kentucky.

REPUBLICANS — 15

Bridges, New Hampshire, Gordon Oregon; Darby, Kansas; Flanders, Vermont; Kem, Missouri.

Knowland, California; Lodge, Massachusetts; Malone, Nevada, Millikin, Colorado; Schoeppel, Kansas.

Smith, Maine; Smith, New Jersey; Taft, Ohio; Tobey, New Hampshire; Williams, Delaware.

AGAINST THE MOTION TO TABLE—20

DEMOCRAT 1

McCarran, Nevada.

REPUBLICANS — 19

Aiken, Vermont; Brewster, Maine; Butler, Nebraska; Cain, Washington: Capehart, Indiana; Donnell, Missouri; Dworshak, Idaho; Ecton Montana: Ferguson Michigan; Gurney, South Dakota; Hendrickson, New Jersey: Jenner, Indiana; Langer, North Dakota; Martin, Pennsylvania: Mundt, South Dakota; Thye, Minnesota: Vandenberg Michigan: Watkins, Utah; Young North Dakota.

Paired for the motion to table: Robertson, Virginia; Saltonstall, Massachusetts; Morse, Oregon.

Paired against the motion: McCarthy, Wisconsin: Hickenlooper, Iowa; Wiley, Wisconsin.

Absent but announced as being for the motion: Byrd, Virginia; Chapman, Kentucky; Stennis, Mississippi: Kerry, Oklahoma; Connally, Texas; Hunt, Wyoming.

Absent but announced as being against: Wherry, Nebraska.

On the motion of Senator Lucas to table Senator Langer's motion to take up the FEPC bill, Gurney, Mundt, Vandenberg and Watkins switched from nay to yea; Cordon, and Flanders switched from yea to nay, an Brewster, Darby, Knowland and McMahon did not vote Lucas's motion was adopted 59 to 17.

27f 1950

8105

Hearings on Antilynching Legislation in Progress Before Senate Committee

Afro-American

Attorney General Makes Strong Plea for His Bill Introduced as a Senator

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Hearings on antilynching legislation were resumed last Friday before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee, headed by Sen. Harley M. Kilgore (Dem., W. Va.).

Attorney General J. Howard McGrath, who, while a Senator, introduced one of the two bills on which the hearings are being held, urged approval of his bill on the ground that it meets the needs of law enforcement agencies.

Baltimore, Md

Mr. McGrath did not appear personally before the subcommittee but sent Frank Chambers, who is in charge of the legislative unit in the office of the Assistant to the Attorney General in the Justice Department, to present his views.

Oct. 28-50

Existing civil rights statutes permit the Justice Department, "under certain handicaps," to prosecute State officers and private individuals who conspire with State officers in cases of mob violence, the Attorney General instances in the past of lynching or the threat of lynching of perpointed out.

Mr. McGrath declared that prosecution in such cases "by no means meets the whole problem."

"It is essential," he added, that the Government be put in a position to prosecute the members of a lynch mob, particularly where there is no element of conspiracy with local officers."

Should Not Limit Cases

The Attorney General said it also is essential that the Government should not be limited to those cases where victims of mob violence are taken from law enforcement officers with or without the consent of such officers. He declared:

"There have been far too many sons neither charged with nor suspected of crime, but who, for economic or political reasons, have been victims of mob violence because of their race or color.

Intolerable Situation

"Such a situation is intolerable in our society. The Government must be in in a position to deal with all of these cases."

Mr. McGrath's bill would make it a Federal offense for any person, whether or not he is a member of a lynch mob, to instigate, incite, organize, aid, abet, or commit a lynching, or be a member of a lynch mob.

Punishment upon conviction would be a maximum fine of $1000 or imprisonment for not more than a year, or both. If the victim dies the penalty would be a maximum fine of $10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 20 years, or both.

27f

Calls For Mobilization Of Opinion, Resources

Daily World

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — President Truman believes that lynching and all other types of lawlessness should be stopped by any means possible.

June 29-50

Asked at his weekly press conference whether he thought a federal law against bigtime gambling was more important than a federal law against lynching, Mr. Truman replied that that was a matter that will have to be worked out by the Attorney General.

Atlanta Ga

That is not a matter in his department, the President said, explaining that he was not a lawyer in the criminal division of the Justice Department and that he will take the advice of the Attorney General on the subject.

27f

Mr. Truman added, however, that he thought all sorts of lawlessness ought to be stopped by any means that can stop it, and in enforcing law care should be taken to see that civil rights are not infringed upon.

STATEMENT REPITITION

The President's statement at his press conference was, in effect, a repitition of a statement he had made the day before at the Attorney General's conference on law enforcement problems when he called for a mobilization of "local opinion and resources against organized crime and the conditions which create it."

The conference of federal, state and local officials held a one-day discussion at the Justice Department on law enforcement problems in connection with organized crime at the Justice Department last Wednesday.

Several proposals made by conference members for tightening federal law to combat crime were referred to a legislative committee, headed by Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, of Baltimore, and included Attorney General J. Howard McGrath, who called the conference.

The suggestions included prohibition of interstate shipment of slot machines, barring interstate telegraph and telephone lines to gamblers, and a complete review of the Fugitive Felon Act and extradition procedures with foreign countries.

One of the anti-crime measures Mr. Truman recommended to the conference was the elimination of "the inequalities of opportunity which embitter men and women and turn them toward lawlessness."

The President particularly emphasized equality of opportunity. "I think every child in the nation, regardless of his race, creed or color, should have the right to a proper education," he declared, adding:

RIGHT IN INDUSTRY

"And when he has finished that education, he ought to have the right in industry to fair treatment in employment. If he is able and willing to do the job, he ought to be given a chance to do that job, no matter what his religious connections are, or what his color is."

Mr. Truman told the representatives of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies that they should be "vigilant to enforce the laws which protect our citizens from violence or intimidation in the exercise of their constitutional and legal rights."

He urged "vigorous efforts to prevent mob violence, and other forms of interference with basic rights—the right to a fair trial, the right to vote, and the right to exercise freedom of speech, assembly, and petition."

Pointing out that it is as much the duty of law enforcement officers "to protect the innocent as it is to prosecute the guilty, Mr. Truman said:

"The friendless, the weak, the victims of prejudice and public excitement are entitled to the same quality of justice and fair play that the rich, the powerful, the well-connected, and the fellow with pull thinks he can get.

ENTITLED TO COUNCIL

"Moreover, the guilty as well as the innocent are entitled to due process of law. They are entitled to a fair trial. They are entitled to counsel. They are entitled to fair treatment from the police.

"The law enforcement officer has the same duty as the citizen—indeed, he has a higher duty—to abide by the letter and spirit of our constitution and laws. You yourselves must be careful to obey the letter of the law. You yourselves must be intellectually honest in the enforcement of the law."

Attorney General J. Howard McGrath pointed out to the conference that numbers games as well as bookmaking and slot machines are illegal in almost every state and that it is "an inescapable conclusion" that gambling as a private business "cannot operate on its present gigantic scale without corrupting what it touches."

Calling organized gambling "the biggest illicit traffic since prohibition," Mr. McGrath declared that everywhere the pattern was the same—"struggling and doublecrossing, to eliminate competitors for the right to cheat the public."

27f

As an example that gambling contributes nothing to society but trouble, Mr. McGrath cited the numbers racket. He said it was built upon "the nickle and dime bets of hundreds of thousands of our poorest people." But, he added, "In more recent years it has moved into offices, shops, and factories where the money wagered makes it a business estimated by investigators to yield two billion dollars annual."

Both Mr. Truman and Mr. McGrath pledged the full resources of the federal government to work with the states and cities against organized crime.

FOUR SOUTHERNERS APPEAR IN OPPOSITION TO ANTI-LYNCH LAW

27f

Use Tuskegee Figures to Prove That Mob Murder Is Dying Out in Dixie

RANKIN SAYS ATTEMPT TO HARASS SOUTH

(By Alice Dunnigan)

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The House Judiciary subcommittee, under the chairmanship of Rep. William T. Byrne of New York will resume hearings on the Federal Anti-Lynch bill on next Tuesday.

The hearings were opened last Tuesday with four southern representatives appearing in opposition to such measure.

Those testifying before the subcommittee were Con. John Rankin of Mississippi, Charles Bennett of Florida, John Rankin of Mississippi and Boyd Tackett of Arkansas, and Joseph Bryson.

Each of these southern gentlemen boasted of the splendid relationship between the colored and white people of the South and claimed that any "medling" from the north would only tend to stir up trouble.

Citing figures by Tuskegee institute, the congressmen all claimed that lyynching is on the decline as there were only three lynchings in the south last year and one in 1948.

They each contended that more lynchings went on in the northern states than in the south but in the north they are called "murder" they declared, while in the south they are termed as "lynchings."

Mr. Bennett, the 40-year-old war veteran, gave his usual argument that he is a friend to the colored folks and all of the people of his district know that. He has gone so far as to help these people that his apponents branded him as a "nigger lover" in his campaign for congressman.

He mentioned his recent bill to provide more adequate funds for colored schools, but he has gotten no cooperation on this measure. This bill, he said, has never gotten out of the committee.

South Taken By Fire And Sword

The Florida representative accused the country of wanting to forget the one-third of its nation which it took by fire and sward. He said the nation has no business abolishing the institution of slavery which was provided in the constitution, as was the right of deportation of slaves. Since it was done the country has the responsibility of providing for and protecting the colored people of the South, but this can be done he thought by permitting the FBI to assist the southern governors in the states which haven't the facilities to protect their citizens. But he argued that it should not be done by passing any federal legislation to prohibit the so-called lynchings.

Negroes Want To Tomfoolery

Mr. Tackett directed his attack upon the northern white man whom he said did not give Negroes any more than the white people of the south gave them.

Negroes of the South are friends of the white man, he said. They stayed with him during the Civil War and will continue to stay with him. Those people don't want this northern "tomfoolery" he continued. "They want to be left alone."

Civil War Is Over

Mr. Rankin spoke of the anti-lynch bill as being an attempt to harrass the white people of the South.
South.

Addressing himself to the committee composed mainly of northern men, Mr. Rankin said, "You sold us the nigres—but the Civil War is over and we're glad of it."

He talked about the "carpet baggers" who took over the South soon after the war, but finally concluded that Negroes are now enjoying "more peace, happiness, prosperity and security in the South than they are in the North."

In referring to the schools of the south, Mr. Rankin said the nigres in his home town have better schools now than he had when he was a boy. (Mr. Rankin is now about 68, he was a school boy 60 years ago).

God Forgive Them

In his smooth, soft-spoken, convincing way, Mr. Bryson began his statement with a Biblical quotation, "God forgive them for they know not what they do." He was referring to the sponsors of the 11 anti-lynch bills which are now before the subcommittee.

He said that God had not intended that the white people and the colored people mix, that is why he made them different and with different characteristics.

Without raising his voice, he attacked the delegates who were here attending a Civil Rights Mobilization in an effort to get some civil rights legislation passed in this session of Congress.

If many more delegations like that come to Washington, there would never be any passage of civil rights legislation he said. "There was necking, and foundling, and loving by people of different races," he said, "even in the galleries of Congress."

He told the story of his saintly old mother with whom the family spent Christmas, and how they called in the Negroes to take part in this Christmas feast.

"They did not sit down at the tavle with us—to be sure. But they sat at the same table, after we had finished, they sat in the same chairs, ate out of the same dishes and with the same knives and forks. They ate the same food which we had, and enjoyed the same Christmas tree.

He painted a beautiful picture of dear old "Aunt Lyder" whom they invited to the celebration and how his family went out to purchase her a Christmas present and of the beautiful dress pattern with all the necessary buttons and threads.

He told of one of the relatives who was a doctor, and who could not enjoy his Christmas celebration because he had a patient in the hospital about whom he was much concerned.

He did not take time to have his picture taken with the family group when he found that his patient needed him. He rushed away without hat or coat to deliver a baby to this colored woman in a charity hospital. When it was all over he came back smiling and relaxed as he had discharged his duty toward a colored citizen.

At the close of this day's testimonies, the hearings were postponed for another week.

Woman Identifies Accused Negro Rape-Slayer From Photo

Dat. 10-21-50

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 20.—(AP)—Mrs. Kathleen Holley Friday identified an accused Negro sex offender from a photograph as the man who raped her and murdered her 4-year-old son.

Shelby County Sheriff A. E. Norwood said the 37-year-old Calera, Ala., farm wife was shown a "good picture" of Cooper Drake, 28-year-old ex-serviceman. She is in "fair" condition at Jefferson-Hillman Hospital here.

Drake was under heavy guard at the same hospital to frustrate any attempted violence against him, Norwood said. The Negro was wounded critically by members of a huge posse who shot him down Thursday 24 hours after the crime. He also was reported in fair condition Friday.

Calera residents were incensed by the brutal rape-slaying Wednesday, which Norwood called "one of the most hideous crimes I ever heard of."

"Folks have cooled off now, but we are taking precautions against any one killing Drake," Norwood said. "We want the law to take its course."

The gold-toothed young ex-serviceman was released only three months ago after serving an Army sentence on a conviction of assault with intent to rape at Fort Myers, Fla.

Seven officers, including five highway patrolmen guarded the wounded man Friday.

The sheriff said Drake was charged with murder, rape, highway robbery and assault with intent to murder. The Negro denied any connection with the case. Norwood said the highway robbery charge was filed because a fountain pen and a small amount of cash also were taken from Mrs. Holley during a three-hour ordeal.

Sheriff Norwood said that in addition to showing Mrs. Holley the picture which she identified, Drake would be placed in a police line-up for her to view when the Negro recovers.

He reported the arrest of a neighbor of Drake's in the rural section near Calera, J. C. Vines, another Negro, as a material witness.

Vines saw Drake change clothes not long after the attack, Norwood said.

Dat. 10-21-50

Officers planned to move for speedy legal action against the accused Negro. Norwood said his case would be presented at the regular session of the county grand jury convening Monday.

After Drake was tracked down and shot, several members of the enraged posse threatened possible mob action. Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore talked them out of killing the Negro. He was hurried 37 miles north to Birmingham by highway patrolmen.

Gov. James E. Folsom said he planned commendations for the officers who helped protect Drake from threatened violence after his capture.

Four-year-old Dale Holley was buried Friday. Pictures of the funeral were made for Mrs. Holley.

Posse Wounds Rape-Suspect In Ala. Manhunt

Atlanta, Ga.

CALERA, Ala.— (INS) — An Air Force Veteran wanted for killing a four-year-old boy and criminally assaulting the lad's mother was flushed from the woods north of Calera Thursday by an angry posse of 500 men who shot and wounded him.

The Alabama highway patrol immediately took the suspect, Cooper Drake, 29, out of the hands of the Posse which had sought him for nearly 24 hours. They rushed him to a hospital in Birmingham, Ala.

Drake was unarmed at the time of his capture. The .32 caliber pistol with which he allegedly killed theb oy and shot at the 37-year old mother of four was picked up in a corn crib near Drake's farm home.

A posse of 1,000 men armed with shotguns and pitchforks and aided by bloodhounds scoured the woods near Calera while an airplane hovered overhead.

The mother, Kathleen Holley draged herself nearly two miles after her gold-toothed assailant had shot the little boy as she held him in her arms. She was taken to a Birmingham hospital, where her conditions was not serious.

Immediately after the woman told her tale of zeing attacked, shot at and crushed by a rock wielding by Drake the Posse was formed.

Meanwhile, one man was whisked away by State Patrolmen from the scene of the search. In Anniston, Ala., many miles away, Calhoun Co., Sheriff A. A. Pate arrested Thirty-Two year old Frank Jones after he was taken from a freight train coal car.

A woman in whose home one Drake's washed out bloody clothing was found and held a material witness. Possemen said the woman, Etta Ryan, about 45, was seen with the suspect Wednesday morning walking by the isolated cabin where the attack later occurred.

Calera Woman Badly Wounded By Terrorist

Post-Herald

Thurs. 10-19-50

Crawls To Aid After Attack By Negro

Birmingham

One of the biggest manhunts in Alabama history beat through the woods north of Calera last night seeking a gold-toothed Negro for the criminal assault of a 37-year-old woman and the brutal slaying of her four-year-old son.

The scene was about 30 miles south of Birmingham in Shelby County.

Badly beaten herself, shot several times, the woman spread the alarm about 2 p.m. yesterday—some three hours after the assault—when she dragged her tortured body almost two miles to cry for help.

Victims were Mrs. Kathleen Holley and her son, Dale.

The child's body was found in the woods some 150 yards from his far mhome after his mother had called for aid.

Mother of five children, Mrs. Holley was washing clothes at a well when the Negro approached her.

Forced Into Bedroom

He forced her into the house and into a bedroom, where he criminally assaulted her. Then he made her pull drawers out of dressers in his wild search for money.

Boastfully, then, he forced the woman—with her son in her arms—to march in front of him into the woods. As the panic-stricken mother clutched her boy to her bosom, the Negro bragged that he was going to kill her.

At a point 150 yards from the house, he told her to put the boy down.

She refused.

Then he emptied his gun into her body.

Bullets Hit Child

Two of the bullets hit Dale in the head. He died on the spot. The mother fell to the ground, badly wounded, but still the Negro did not leave.

He picked up a rock and crushed her head.

And then he left.

He returned, but the mother feigned death. Afterwards she crawled to Highway 31—which leads from Montgomery to Birmingham—and called a cab.

Husband Told News

Her husband, 40-year-old Arthur Holley, a welder at the Saginaw Lime Plant (between Calera and Birmingham) was telephoned the tragic news.

He waited in Saginaw as a taxi rushed his wife there, where he joined them. Then the taxi rushed on to Jefferson-Hillman Hospital in Birmingham.

That is the story Mrs. Holley gasped to her husband during the ride to Birmingham.

Bill Holcomb, store operator on Highway 31, threw the manhunt into full-scale operation. At 2 p.m. a motorist stopped to tell him a woman was lying on the road, apparently injured.

Post-Herald

Together they brought her to the store, where Mrs. Holcomb and Mrs. Claude Mauldin, of Birmingham, who was there at the time, gave Mrs. Holley first aid.

Thurs. 10-19-50

Newly-appointed Shelby sheriff A. Norwood, of Columbiana, was notified, and the manhunt got going.

A deputy sheriff and doctor went immediately to the scene and found the body of Dale.

Coroner Homer J. Walton joined them for an on-the-spot inquest.

Many Join Search

Volunteers, Alabama Highway Patrolmen, Calera policemen, officers from Montevallo, a state investigator, agents of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and others hurried to join the sheriff in hunting the murderer.

Norwood called Kilby Prison, Montgomery for bloodhounds. The dogs arrived shortly after 6 p.m.

Carl Simons, operating a cab company, put Mrs. Holley in one of his cars and rushed her to Birmingham.

Mrs. Holcomb said Mrs. Holley had a bullet wound in the neck and another in the hand. The back of her head appeared to have been beaten with a rock.

Mrs. Holley told her, Mrs. Holcomb said, that the Negro was about 28, light yellow, and was wearing a blue shirt, a blue wash cap, black shoes and gray-checked trousers.

Passed Home

Shortly before the crime happened, Mrs. Holley said she had seen the Negro pass her log-cabin home.

Frightened, she picked up Dale and started to go to the road. Her fears subsided when she saw the Negro man returning with a Negro woman, and she returned to the house.

It was not determined just how long after this the Negro returned alone to the home and sneaked up on Mrs. Holley at the home where she has lived less than two weeks.

Her four other children—Carolyn, 8; Phillip, 10; Jeanette, 12, and Nelda, 14—were in school.

"We've got some hot clues and a good description of the man," Sheriff Norwood declared. "We might catch him."

Mrs. Holcomb said she was told that after the Negro emptied his pistol into the two victims, he reloaded the weapon while standing over them.

No more shots were fired, however.

Birmingham

Mayor R. E. Dowdon Jr., of Calera, asked Birmingham police to talk with Mrs. Holley as soon as possible. Two detectives were sent to Jefferson-Hillman for that purpose.

Rape-Murder Suspect Lies Near Death

27g-al

CALERA, Ala.—A rape-murder suspect identified as Cooper Drake, 28, was shot by five members of a 1,000 man posse hunting him in the woods near here Thursday.

He was critically wounded by possemen when he tried to break through their lines around Long Pond Swamp more than 24 hours after a woman was raped and her child killed near here. He was turned over to State Highway Patrolmen who sped off with him.

Dat. -50 10-2

Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore, the first officer to reach the scene, said he found about a dozen men "making a half-hearted attempt to lynch Drake."

The deputy said that Drake denied attacking Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, and the fatal shooting of her 4-year-old son, Dale. He said "some other Negro did it."

Mrs. Holley said a man came to her rural home as she was hanging out clothes, forced her into the house, and after raping her, made her take Dale into the woods.

He threatened to kill them, she said, and fired six shots as she clutched the child. As she lay quiet, she said, he beat her head with a rock. She managed to crawl to a highway nearby.

Posse Captures Assault Suspect

Ledger Enq. 10-20-50

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 20—(AP)—A Negro sex offender accused of raping a white farm wife and slaying her four-year-old son remained in a critical condition today with wounds inflicted by members of a posse.

The Negro, 28-year-old Cooper Drake, and the 37-year-old mother, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, both were patients at Jefferson-Hillman hospital.

Drake was shot down yesterday by five members of a huge posse not far from the isolated Holley home near Calera in Central Alabama. Sheriff's Deputy C. H. Fore talked an enraged group of possemen out of killing the wounded Negro after he was felled.

The fast-talking deputy cooled the anger of the gathering crowd until highway patrolmen arrived. Then Drake was whisked 37 miles north to Birmingham.

Five members of a posse of more than 1,000 men shot down the suspect while he fled like a rabbit across a sage patch.

Highway Patrolman Harry Johnston identified the wounded man as Drake, a gold-toothed young ex-serviceman with a record of sex violence.

Mrs. Holley was raped, shot and left for dead during a three-hour ordeal of brutality in and near her log cabin home yesterday. The little boy was killed while his mother clutched him in her arms.

While the wounded man was treated in the Jefferson-Hillman emergency room, she lay in another part of the hospital, sobbing hysterically.

"He was only four," she wept. "He was only four. . ."

Officers planned to let the mother view the badly wounded Negro in an effort to obtain a positive identification as the alleged attacker. But they decided today to give Drake a chance to recover from wounds before he is confronted by Mrs. Holley.

Drake suffered a severe stomach wound and his thighs were torn by buckshot, they reported.

The Negro was riddled with shotgun and rifle slugs from the waist down just 24 hours after the victim staggered to a country store, pleading, "go get my baby."

Deputy Fore said Drake, before lapsing into a semi-coma, told of keeping just a jump ahead of pursuers through the night.

Drake said bloodhounds "almost got me" yesterday. He recalled being shot at twice and losing his hat.

Posse-Shot Man In Poor Condition

Fri. 10-20-50

By the Associated Press.

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 20.—A Negro sex offender accused of raping a white farm wife and slaying her 4-year-old son remained in a critical condition today with wounds inflicted by members of a posse.

The Negro, 28-year-old Cooper Drake, and the 37-year-old mother, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, both were patients at Jefferson-Hillman Hospital. Drake was shot down yesterday by five members of a huge posse not far from the isolated Holley home near Calera in central Alabama.

POSSE SHOOTS RAPIST HUNTED IN BABY KILLING

Tribune

Son Slain in Arms of Attack Victim

Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 19 [Special]—Members of a posse of 1,000 men, conducting one of Alabama's biggest manhunts, today shot and captured a Negro accused of raping a white woman and slaying her 4 year old son as she clasped the the child in her arms.

Using four bloodhounds in the search, the posse of civilians, state police, and sherif's deputies had been hunting Cooper Drake, 28, previously convicted rapist, in a wood 36 miles south of her since his latest assault yesterday.

"Kept on Running"

The Negro was sighted this afternoon in woods about three miles west of the town of Calera, where the rape-shooting occurred.

"He jumped and ran," related E. E. Rowland, a member of the posse. "We hollered for him to stop but he kept on running. We shot everything at him—rifles, pistols, everything. He was hit at least three times, probably more."

Five possemen reportedly fired at the fleeing Negro. After he was felled, state highway patrolmen, who were in the posse, took charge of him and brought him to a hospital here.

At the hospital it was reported his condition was serious but that virtually all of the shots had struck him from the waist down.

Convicted by Army

Drake was released three months ago from Atlanta penitentiary where he served a sentence imposed by an army court martial in 1944 after being convicted of rape while in the army.

His latest victim was Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, and her son, Dale, youngest of her fiev children. Her husband, Arthur, 40, was at work as a welder in Birmingham and the older children were in school yesterday when Drake appeared at their log home at the edge of Calera.

Threatens to Kill

He forced her to enter the house, where he raped her, threatening to kill her baby if she resisted.

As she turned to run, carrying her son in her arms, he caught her, whirled her about and fired several shots. The baby was shot twice in the head and Mrs. Holley was shot in her hand and face. When she fell, the Negro took a rock and beat her on the head.

After he had left her for dead, the woman crawled a mile to a crossroads store. She was brought to a Birmingham hospital where her condition is serious.

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2 Negroes Charged In Farmer's Death

COLUMBIANA, ALA., Aug 8—(AP)—Newly uncovered evidence Tuesday resulted in murder charges being placed against two Negro tenant farmers in the 21-month old slaying of a white farmer.

Wed.

Sheriff Luther Bozeman and State Investigator W. L. Allen said James and Howard Davis, of near Wilsonville, had been accused of murdering C. L. Prince, Harpersville, Ala.

8-9-50

They were taken to the Jefferson County jail at Birmingham for safekeeping. Bozeman swore to murder warrants against both Negroes.

Montgomery

An autopsy disclosed Prince was killed by blows on the head. He was found dead beside his automobile on a side road near his home. The lights of the car were burning.

Sheriff Bozeman said the men had been questioned at the time of the slaying.

8108

Arrest Meridian Negro As Rape-Killer Suspect

CALERA, Ala. — (AP) — Five members of a huge posse hunting an accused Negro rape-slayer shot and wounded a Negro in woods near Calera today.

CALERA, Ala. — (AP) — A huge posse estimated at more than 1,000 men searched through the night for a Negro who shot a small white boy to death after raping the child's mother.

The child, four-year-old Dale Holley, was shot through the head as his mother clasped him in her arms.

The mother, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, was shot twice and beaten on the head with a large rock. She was seriously wounded but was reported improving today at a Birmingham hospital.

The 37-year-old farm woman told officers of three hours of terror during which the Negro forced her at gunpoint to submit to him, then left her for dead in dense woods near her isolated home about two miles north of Calera in Central Alabama.

Despite her wounds and loss of blood, she staggered and crawled through the woods almost two miles to a country store and pleaded with rescuers to "go get my baby."

Mrs. W. F. Holcombe, a doctor's assistant who administered first-aid, said Mrs. Holley was "brutally raped."

Sheriff A. E. Norwood identified the Negro sought as Cooper Drake, of near Calera. He said Drake's .32 calibre revolver was recovered from a corn crib in the rear of a Negro house near here Thursday.

Heavily armed possemen converged on a freight train near Clanton after a Negro was reported seen riding on it. Sheriff Norwood said it was determined that this was not the man sought.

Still another man was picked up at the Anniston railroad yards by highway patrolmen in mid-morning. He was taken to the county jail there for questioning.

Patrolman Oscar Wade said this man, identified as Frank Jones, 32, Meridian, Miss., Negro, was booked for vagrancy and will be taken to Calera for further questioning.

Wade said the Negro has a gold tooth similar to the description of the accused rapist.

Object of hunt—Cooper Drake.

Assault shown on his record

Records in the office of W. Foster Jordan, chief U. S. probation officer for this district, show that Drake was sentenced to 12 years for assault to rape by a general court-martial at Ft. Myers, Fla., in 1944.

On Aug. 14, 1946, Army authorities reduced Drake's sentence to five years. On Sept. 27, 1946, Drake was denied a parole by federal authorities.

Drake became eligible under federal statutes for a "conditional" release.

10-19-50

April 29, 1949, Drake was taken into custody at Saginaw, Ala., as a cvonditional release violator. His record shows he was "following the same line of behavior which had resulted in his original conviction."

Three months ago, Drake was again freed under conditional release statutes, which provide for time off for good behavior.

Negro captured after long hunt near Calera

BY CLARENCE DAIGLE AND GUY WILKINS

News staff writers

CALERA, Ala., Oct. 19—A Negro suspect in the murder-assault case here was apprehended three and a half miles west of Calera about 1:30 p.m. today.

The Negro, whose exact identity was not immediately learned, is believed to be Cooper Drake, about 28, of Calera Route 2.

The Negro was shot three times by a group of five white men, members of a huge posse which had combed the area around Calera since they learned of the fatal shooting of Dale Holley, 4, and the brutal assault upon his mother, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, yesterday morning.

10-19

E. E. Rowland told Farrell Gibbons, Birmingham News correspondent at Thorsby, that he was one of the five men capturing the Negro. The Negro was still alive when Rowland talked with Gibbons.

Rowland said his group "jumped" the Negro in a sage field three and a half miles west of Calera.

"He just jumped up and ran," Rowland said. "We yelled for him to stop. He kept on running and we shot everything at him—rifles, shotgun,s pistols, everything.

"He was hit at least three times, probably more."

Rowland identified two of the group of men he was with as Richard Duren and John Dedman. He didn't know the names of the other two men in his searching party.

"We got the Calera city police and the State Highway Patrolmen and turned the Negro over to them," Rowland said.

Rowland, who lives at Clanton and works in a cotton mill at Columbinia, said he believed the Highway Patrolmen would take the Negro to a Birmingham jail.

This morning, at dawn, the Negro's .32 blue-steel, Victor revolver was found in a corn crib at the rear of the home of Lepear Williams, Negro, of Calera Route 2.

Williams' wife, after lengthy questioning, told Eugene Montalbano, state highway patrolman from Talladega, and R. E. (Buster) Hogan, correspondent for The Birmingham News, the gun was left in her corn crib last night by Cooper Drake. Fourteen bullets were found with the gun.

* * *

DETERMINATION of the hunters to find their quarry was fed by details of the murderous shooting of Dale Holley and the attack on the mother.

MRS. HOLLEY SAID the Negro then made her "scratch through all the dresser drawers" in the house, looking for money. But her husband had taken all their money with him that morning.

"But the Negro took a fountain pen that belonged to my little girl," Mrs. Holley continued.

She said the Negro, brandishing a blue-steel revolver, made her and her boy walk into the woods behind the house about 11 a.m.

They walked about a quarter of a mile when he told her to put the boy down. She said he had told her he was going to kill her and the boy.

"I was carrying Dale in my arms," she cried. He told me to put the boy down . . . but I just couldn't . . .

"Then he shot us, and we fell.

* * *

"MY LITTLE BOY whimpered on the ground. And he shot him again, then again. Oh, he was only 4 years old.

"I put my hand to my face when he shot me, like this," and the grief-stunned mother held a heavily bandaged hand to the left side of her head.

"I guess that saved me."

Mrs. Holley said the Negro then picked up a large rock and struck her on the head. He walked away, but returned. She lay quietly, as though dead.

* * *

MRS. HOLLEY CRAWLED about a mile to the Birmingham-Montgomery Highway.

"I took off my shoes so I wouldn't make any noise," she said. "I rested a few minutes in a field. Then I stumbled and crawled to Bill Holcomb's filling station on the highway."

Here, Carl Simons put Mrs. Holley in one of the cabs his company operates at Calera. The cab sped toward Birmingham.

Simons stopped at the Saginaw-Longview Lime Works to pick up Mrs. Holley's husband. They raced to Jefferson-Hillman Hospital in Birmingham.

* * *

THE HOLLEYS HAD BEEN living on a farm near Columbiana until he got a job at the lime works about 10 days ago. They moved to Calera, Route Two so he could be nearer his work.

Their four surviving children are Nelda, 14; Jeanette, 12; Phillip, 10, and Carolyn, 7.

* * *

DEPUTY SHERIFFS arrested a Negro woman, Etta Ryan, about 45, and lodged her in Shelby County Jail at Columbiana as a material witness in the case last night.

Possemen said the Ryan woman had walked past the Holley cabin with a Negro man, believed to have been Cooper Drake, before the attack on the Holleys occurred.

Two suspects taken, queried

Two Negro men were questioned in separate Alabama cities today in connection with the Shelby County manhunt.

The first suspect was picked up along the railroad tracks in Clanton. Officers from Calera rushed to Clanton to question the man before his release.

They said he tallied with the description of the slayer with one exception—he was about 50 years old.

In Anniston, officers arrested another Negro on a vagrancy charge. He was to be questioned by Calera officers. Anniston police said the Negro is 32 years old. He has a gold tooth.

Hunted Man Shot By Posse, Saved From Mob

27 g

By CLAUDE F. SITTON
International News Service
Staff Correspondent

CALERA, Ala. — Cooper Drake, 28, Negro parolee hunted for nearly 24 hours for the criminal assault of a mother and the killing of her child, was shot and seriously wounded Thursday by a posse two miles north of Calera.

The 19-year-old suspect was whisked away by Alabama highway patrolmen to a Birmingham hospital after his capture climaxed one of the biggest manhunts in state history.

More than a thousand men aided by bloodhounds and an airplane, found the sawmill worker cowering in a wooded area. He was not armed.

* * *

DRAKE, ON PAROLE from federal prison in Atlanta, had been hunted since Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37-year-old white woman, was attacked in her Shelby county farm home Wednesday. Her four-year-old son was shot and killed by her assailant as she held the boy protectively in her arms.

Drake's brother, Willie, said Cooper had been sent to prison "for some trouble with a woman while he was in the Air Force." He was a veteran of World War II.

Angry Posse Pursuing Killer Suspect in Swamp

Telegram

By the United Press.

CALERA, Ala., Oct. 19.—One thousand angry men pushed through a swamp today hunting a Negro accused of raping and shooting a farm wife and killing her 4-year-old son in her arms.

Men from three counties joined 40 county officers, highway patrolmen and state investigators in the hunt for the killer. But after an all night search the man was still missing. A city policeman said there was some talk of killing the fugitive if members of the mob found him before police did.

Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, gasped out the story of the attack yesterday as she was being taken to a hospital for treatment of bullet wounds in the head and hand.

She told how the man, believed to be former convict Cooper Drake, 27, accosted her in her yard, forced her at gunpoint into a bedroom of the log cabin and raped her as she fought to protect her little boy, Dale.

Then, she said, her assailant marched them into woods behind the cabin and fired six times with a 38-caliber pistol as she held the child. The boy died instantly with two head wounds. The attacker beat Mrs. Holley with a rock and left her for dead.

But the woman crawled one-half mile to the highway, where a motorist found her.

From Mrs. Holley's description of the rape-killer and from other information, officers tentatively identified the assailant as Drake, who was released from state prison three months ago after serving time for rape.

Probe of Alabama Sheriff's Death On

BIRMINGHAM — The case of William F. Webb, 34, of 3006 Sixth Avenue north, charged with running over in an automobile and killing Sheriff Luther T. Bozeman, 50, is set for investigation by the Shelby County Grand Jury Oct. 23.

Sheriff Bozeman died in a local hospital Sept. 28, after it is said that he was run over in a field by a car driven by Webb, an alleged illegal whiskey dealer.

THREATENED BY MOB

Webb had to be rushed to Birmingham for sefekeeping after an unarmed mob estimated at 150 to 200 white men milled around the Shelby County Jail with angry looks. The Sheriff and other officers allegedly had seized five 300-gallon stills in a raid.

A stream of cars allegedly trailed the one in which Webb was rushed to the Jefferson County Jail.

Webb, six-foot-two and weighing 230 pounds, denied that he deliberately ran over the Sheriff. He said that "high grass" in the field kept him from seeing anyone.

279

Negro Is Bound Over In Sheriff's Death

Advertiser

COLUMBIANA, ALA., Oct. 13—(AP)—A Negro man charged with murdering Sheriff Luther Bozeman by deliberately running over him was bound over to the grand jury without bond Friday.

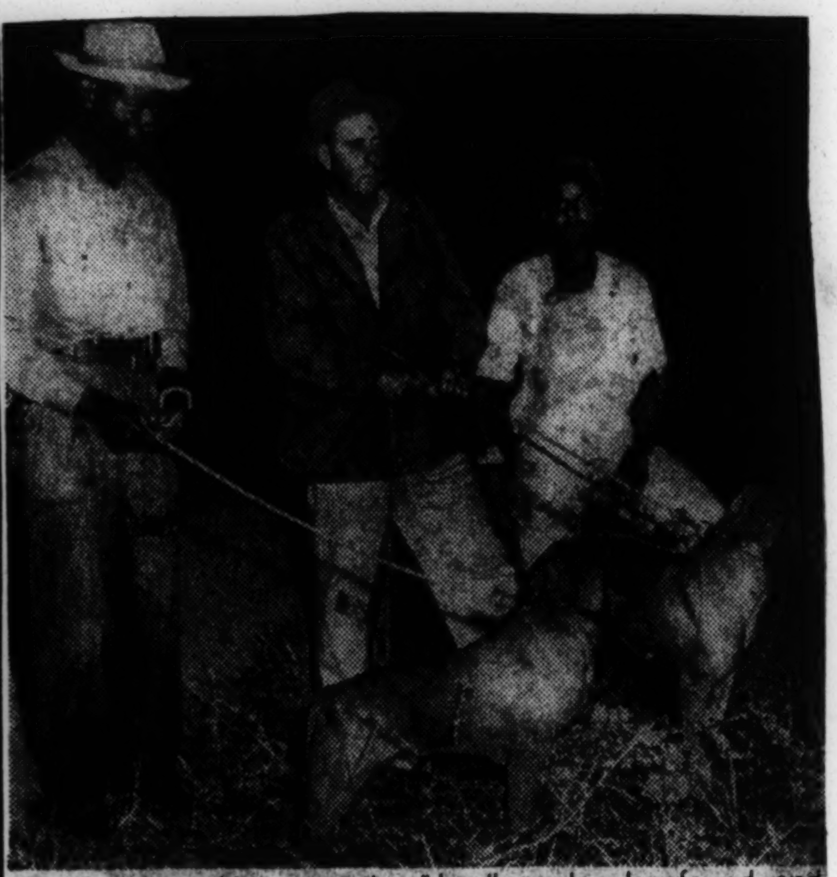
William Franklin Webb, the accused man, pleaded innocent at a preliminary hearing on the murder charge. He was returned to a Birmingham jail where he has been held since the killing, to be held until the Shelby County grand jury meets Oct. 23.

Webb is accused of running down Sheriff Bozeman with a car during a liquor raid Sept. 28. The Shelby County officer died several hours later in a Birmingham hospital. Webb, a Birmingham Negro, was carried to a jail there when a crowd gathered outside the county jail.

Montgomery Ala.

27g 1950 Alabama

In Shelby County manhunt—Mounted possemen were helping in the search for a Negro man who killed 4-year-old Dale Holley and wounded his mother, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, at Calero yesterday. The mounted posseman is L. D. Kendrick, Thorsby.



The hunters—Here are the bloodhounds who found and then lost the trail of the accused killer. Shown with the dogs are, left to right, "Eat Em Up" Joe Jackson, Warden W. E. Litoker and Hugh Nettles. (Photo by R. E. (Buster) Hogan.)

Weath weapon?—State Highway Patrolman Eugene Montalbano, of Talladega, holds the .32 caliber revolver believed to have been the weapon used in the fatal shooting of a 4-year-old Calera boy and the wounding of his mother there yesterday. News Thurs.

* * * 10-19-50

The weapon, and 14 bullets, were found in a corn crib at the home of Lepear Williams, of Calera Route 2. Williams' wife said the gun was thrown in the corn crib last night by Cooper Drake, Negro, about 28.

Negro Students Give Rape Victim Dozen Red Roses

Advertiser

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 25—(AP)—Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37-year-old farm woman who was raped and her 4-year-old son shot to death last week, Wednesday received a dozen red roses.

Thurs. 10-26-50 Adv.

They were sent to her by pupils and teachers of the Calera Negro Junior High School. An accompanying card said:

"We are in deepest sympathy with you, and wish you a speedy recovery and an early return to your loved ones."

Mrs. Holley was raped and shot Oct. 18 at her home in an isolated area near Calera. Her attacker shot to death her son, Dale, as she held him in her arms.

Montgomery, Adv.

A huge posse captured Cooper Drake, 28-year-old Negro, the following day. The Negro was wounded in the stomach and legs and brought to the Jefferson-Hillman Hospital here, where Mrs. Holley also is a patient.

She identified Drake from a photograph as her attacker.

One dozen red roses. . . .

They spoke more than a million words.

They were meant to comfort . . . to reassure . . . to express hope.

The roses went to Mrs. Kathleen Holley, of Calera, who was assaulted last week at her home by a Negro man who killed her 4-year-old son.

And they came from members of her attacker's race—students and teachers at the Calera Negro Junior High School.

With the flowers came a simple card. It said: "We are in deepest sympathy with you, and wish for you a speedy recovery and an early return to your loved ones."

Mrs. Holley was shot in the hand and face and was brutally beaten with a rock. She is reported improving in Jefferson-Hillman Hospital where the flowers were sent.

Wed. 10-25-50

THE ROSES were presented the victim, on behalf of the Calera Negro group, by E. H. Littlejohn, principal of the Calera High School.

Calera High School is an institution for whites.

Cooper Drake, 28-year-old Negro of Calera, Route 2, has been accused of the crime against Mrs. Holley and her child.

She has identified him as her attacker.

The accused man was captured less than 24 hours after the attack by members of a posse which numbered approximately 1,000 men.

He was shot in the stomach and is hospitalized under guard at the same hospital to which Mrs. Holley was admitted.

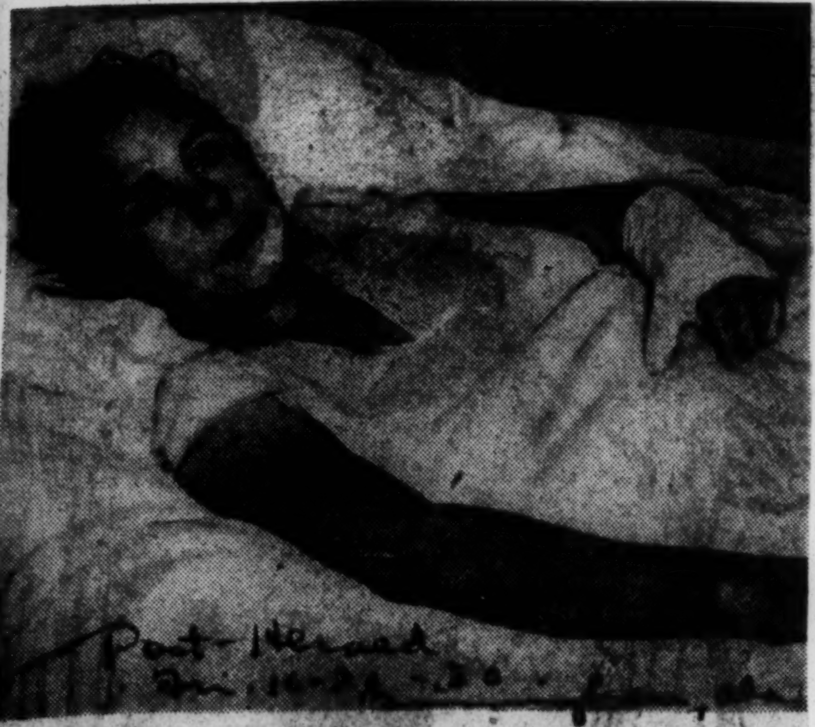
The Negro recently was conditionally released from a federal penitentiary where he had served a term for assault with intent to rape while serving in the U. S. Army.

News Wed. 10-25-50 Birmingham

Roses for Mrs. Holley—Mrs. Kathleen Holley looks at roses sent her by teachers and students at Calera Negro Junior High School. E. H. Littlejohn (left), principal of the Calera High School (white), made the presentation on behalf of the Negro group. At the right is Mrs. Holley's husband, Arthur. Mrs. Holley was attacked, beaten and shot by a Negro who killed her 4-year-old son last week.

8110

OFFICERS WHO BROUGHT SUSPECT IN — Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore, left, discusses the capture of Cooper Drake with Highway Patrol Lt. Joe Smelley. Patrolman Harry Johnston, center, stands guard over the operating room where doctors treated Drake.



Post-Herald
Fri. 10-20-50 - Birmingham, Ala.

VICTIM—Mrs. Kathleen Holley is shown in her hospital room at Jefferson-Hillman yesterday. She was in fair condition.

Negro Caught Hiding In Ditch Near Calera

Post-Herald
Fri. 10-20-50

Brought To Hillman, Past Record Bared

Birmingham, Ala.

Cooper Drake, 28, Negro suspect in the Calera assault-murder case, was near death in Jefferson-Hillman Hospital early last night after being shot nearly a dozen times before he was captured yesterday afternoon.

A member of the small group which flushed Drake from a ditch in a treacherous swamp two miles northwest of Calera, said the group "shot hell out of that Negro" after Drake jumped and ran.

Ten officers waited at the hospital hoping to get a chance to question Drake about the brutal murder of Dale Holley, 4, and criminal assault-shooting of Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, near Calera Wednesday morning.

They planned to let Mrs. Holley look at Drake to see if he was the "yellow-skinned, gold-toothed" Negro who assaulted her and then marched her and her small son through a mile of underbrush before shooting them.

Officers Think He's Man

Officers said they were sure Drake was the man. The largest posse in Alabama history had hunted him for nearly 24 hours before his capture.

"We have his hat and gun," State Investigator W. L. Allen said. "We also have the bullets."

Doctors said Drake was in critical condition from the many bullet wounds in his legs and body. One bullet tore through his stomach and out his back.

Shelby County Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore was the first officer at the scene of the capture after Drake was shot.

Fore said several members of the small posse which had broken off from the main group of hunters caught Drake.

A steady rain had fallen over the area most of the day before the capture.

Drake has been convicted twice for sex offenses.

Denies Guilt

Drake denied he was the Negro who slipped up on Mrs. Holley as she washed clothes and made her take him at gun point through the four-room log cabin looking for money before he assaulted her.

"It was some other Negro," Drake told Fore. The suspect gave officers the name of a man he said committed the crimes.

The Negro was captured barely a half-mile from the spot where Mrs. Holley was assaulted. It was near where she and her son were shot.

Drake was captured almost at the very spot officers believed he might make for when he realized the huge manhunt was on yesterday.

The place was at the edge of Long Pond Swamp, which runs north of Calera toward Saginaw, where Mrs. Holley's husband, Arthur, 40, worked as a welder.

Constant Guard

The Highway Patrol kept a constantly-shifting guard around a two-square mile area where they thought Drake was holed up Wednesday night.

At daylight, an officer found a pistol and 17 bullets in a corn crib in the area.

Shortly after dawn, the men who had gone home to get a few hours sleep began gathering again at the area and the manhunt was on at full swing again.

Small groups led by men who knew the area well began to criss-cross back and forth looking for Drake.

Most of them knew Drake by sight.

Members of the 1000-man posse first suspected Drake when Mrs. Holley sobbed out a description of her attacker after she had crawled nearly a mile for help.

Drake was released from the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta three months ago. He had been serving a term on an assault with intent to rape conviction.

Spotted Previously

When Drake was sighted yesterday afternoon, it was the second time during the manhunt that he had been spotted by searchers.

Two Calera men came upon him in a thicket near his home on Calera, Rt. 2 about 4 p.m. Wednesday afternoon and fired four shots at him, but he escaped.

Bloodhounds rushed from Kilby Prison picked up his trail there and bayed close behind him for five hours.

Drake said after his capture that the hounds dogged his trail the entire time and that twice they were "right upon" him. The dogs were called off after they ran down at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday.

After Drake was shot, Deputy Fore and highway patrolmen made a makeshift litter out of rope and some sweetgum branches and carried the Negro to a patrol car three-quarters of a mile away.

They rushed him to Birmingham through the crowds of men who lined the edge of Highway 31.

Four cars were in the convoy which brought Drake to Birmingham. He was put under an oxygen tent shortly after he was brought to the hospital, and doctors said he might be in the emergency room "indefinitely."

Posse Shoots Down Attack Case Suspect

[illegible]
Fri. 10-20-50

By the Associated Press

CALERA, Ala., Oct. 20.—A sex offender, accused of assaulting a farm wife and killing her 4-year-old son, was tracked down and shot yesterday, then saved quickly from possible mob action.

Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore said he talked a small group of enraged members of the posse out of killing him.

Birmingham

The fast-talking deputy cooled the anger of the gathering crowd until highway patrolmen arrived. Then the man was whisked 37 miles north to Birmingham.

Five members of a posse of more than 1,000 men shot down the suspect, while he fled across a sage patch.

Highway Patrolman Harry Johnston identified the wounded man as Cooper Drake, 28, colored, an ex-serviceman.

Mr. Johnston helped guard the semiconscious man as he was carried to the same Birmingham hospital where the assault victim, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, was under treatment.

Mrs. Holley was attacked, shot and left for dead during a three-hour ordeal of brutality in and near her log cabin home yesterday. Little Dale Holley was killed whilt his mother clutched him in her arms.

Drake suffered a severe gunshot wound in the stomach and his thighs were riddled by buckshot by members of the posse.

Drake was released only three months ago after serving an Army rape sentence.

Federal probation records at Birmingham showed Drake was sentenced to 12 years by an Army court-martial for assault with intent to rape at Fort Myers, Fla. The sentence was reduced to five years on August 14, 1946, by a military reviewing board.

He was given a conditional release from Federal prison in 1948 but was rearrested April 29, 1949, as a violator of the conditional release in a case involving a Negro woman. He served time at the Federal prison in Atlanta until July 25, 1950, when he again was given a conditional release.

Woman Identifies Shelby Suspect

Post-Herald

Date 10-21-50

Calera Farm Wife Shown Picture; Wounded Negro In 'Fair' Condition

Birmingham, Ala.

Mrs. Kathleen Holley has identified an accused Negro sex offender as the man who raped her and murdered her 4-year-old son.

Shelby County Sheriff A. E. Norwood said the 37-year-old Calera farm wife was shown a "good picture" of Cooper Drake, 28-year-old ex-serviceman. She is in "fair" condition at Jefferson-Hillman Hospital.

Drake was under heavy guard at the same hospital to frustrate any attempted violence against him, Norwood said. The Negro was wounded critically by members of a huge posse who shot him down 24 hours after the crime. He also was reported in fair condition.

Calera residents were incensed by the brutal rape-slaying Wednesday, which Norwood called "one of the most hideous crimes I ever heard of."

"Folks have cooled off now," but we are taking precautions against anyone killing Drake," Norwood said. "We want the law to take its course."

Previous Record

The gold-toothed young Negro was released only three months ago after serving an Army sentence on a conviction of assault with intent to rape at Fort Myers, Fla.

The sheriff said Drake was charged with murder, rape, highway robbery and assault with intent to murder. The Negro denied any connection with the case. A fountain pen and a small amount of cash were taken from Mrs. Holley during a three-hour ordeal.

Sheriff Norwood said that in addition to showing Mrs. Holley the picture which she identified, Drake would be placed in a police lineup for her to view when the Negro recovers.

He reported the arrest of a neighbor of Drake in the rural section near Calera, J. C. Vines, another Negro, as a material witness.

Clothes Claimed Changed

Vines saw Drake change clothes not long after the attack, Norwood said.

Officers planned to move for speedy legal action against the accused Negro. Norwood said his case would be presented at the regular session of the county grand jury convening Monday.

After Drake was tracked down and shot, he was hurried 37 miles north to Birmingham by highway patrolmen.

Gov. James E. Folsom said he planned commendations for the officers who helped protect Drake after his capture.

Four-year-old Dale Holley was buried yesterday. Pictures of the funeral were made for Mrs. Holley.

Prisoner Is Saved from Mob Action

Times-Picayune

(The Associated Press)

Fri. 10-20-50

New Orleans, La.

Calera, Ala., Oct. 19—A Negro sex offender accused of raping a farm wife and killing her 4-year-old son was tracked down and shot Thursday, then saved quickly from possible mob action.

Deputy sheriff C. H. Fore said he talked a small group of enraged members of the posse which captured the man out of killing him.

The fast-talking deputy cooled the anger of the gathering crowd until highway patrolmen arrived. Then he was whisked 37 miles north to Birmingham.

Five members of a posse of more than 1000 men shot down the suspect, identified as Cooper Drake, 28, Calera, while he fled across a sage patch.

Highway patrolman Harry Johnston identified the wounded man as Drake, a gold-toothed young ex-serviceman with a record of sex violence.

8111

News Thurs. 10-19-50 Birmingham, Ala.

Met violent death—This is Dale Holley, 4. He met a horrible death in the woods.

A gloomy, wooded path—

Scene like setting for mystery story

You find hundreds of cars, men with rifles are gathered

BY CLARENCE DAIGLE
News staff writer

CALERA, Ala., Oct. 19—It was like the setting in a mystery story—a ghastly story of blood and death.

You reached the scene by a gloomy, winding path filled with strange noises as the wind blew through the trees and tall grass.

Even before you reached the scene your blood chilled. Ignoring bumps in the road, you speeded the car to escape that choking feeling and the cold fear that has engulfed you.

Thurs. 10-19-50

Then suddenly there is open air and before you a sharp incline and railroad tracks. You can see the tops of hundreds of automobiles parked helter-skelter in the dense undergrowth.

And there it is before you—the house of tragic death and tragic dishonor.

* * *

GRIM-FACED MEN gathered in little bunches, speaking quietly. Some had long rifles slung across their arms.

"It is the little boy," you hear one man say. "Why did he have to kill the little boy? . . . He made them march out of the house and shot them down like dogs."

Highway patrolmen and men with deputy badges pace up and down, up and down, before the house.

A man rode up on horseback. He carried a rifle. He sobbed when he spoke.

"I heard about it a little while ago," he said. "I have nine children. . . . It's the little boy. Why did he have to kill the little boy?"

News

* * *

"SHE CRAWLED through the woods to the store on the highway," a man said. "They found the boy's body on the road all covered with blood."

"The bloodhounds," someone said. "The bloodhounds have come."

Thurs. 10-19-50

It was like an electric shock. The little bunches of men began to separate. Here one caressed the rifle he was carrying. Shoulders straightened. . . . A deputy loosened his pistol in his holster.

"Wanta come along?" he said. He is Chief Deputy T. O. Fore.

Back the long, winding road made more frightening by the darkness. Hundreds of more autos are parked along the highway. Highway patrolmen, deputies, uniformed police stand around a small truck.

There are four dogs in the truck, but they are going to use only two. Two big, red dogs called "Joy" and "Big Red."

* * *

TWO NEGROES stand beside the dogs. They are trusties from Kilby Prison. One is "Eat 'Em Up" Joe Jackson, who had been serving a 20-year sentenced, and the other is Hugh Nettles.

They carry big pistols in holsters at their sides.

"He's armed, boys," said Warden W. E. Litoker. "Don't take any chances."

* * *

"THEY'RE GOING to turn the dogs loose where Cecil (Coward) shot at him," said Chief Fore. "There's the sheriff."

Sheriff A. E. Norwood approaches the chief's car. He has only been in office a few weeks, replacing Sheriff Luther Bozeman who was killed when struck by a moonshiner's car.

It is his first big case. "We've got to find him," he said. "If you get him, take him away somewhere, then let me know. He's in those woods back there. You take the other end and I'll take this end."

Chief Fore's car shot forward, and turned in a narrow dirt road. But he is not the first one on the road.

Ahead, you can see red taillights moving steadily onward. You pass cars parked on the side of the road. Men stare at the woods.

"Listen for the dogs," said Chief Fore.

* * *

FOR A LONG TIME there is only silence. But you know that a man is being hunted like an animal by animals, because of a crime described as one of the most heinous in the knowledge of experienced lawmen.

"Wait," said Chief Fore. He stopped the car.

Then from out of the woods, came the faint, unmistakeable howl of a hound that has scented the prey.

Others have heard it, too. Cars rushed by, trying to isolate that single call of the hound.

Finally, there is a wide road and hundreds of cars. Men stand at the edge of the road and stare into the blackness of the woods.

Sheriff Norwood is there. So is Warden Litoker.

"HE CROSSED the road here," said the warden. "The dog-boys left a sign."

Listening and waiting and then moving on. Sometimes there are stops. The hours pass and the crowds on the road begin to thin.

Finally there is a flashlight on the road. You find Joy there and Joe Jackson, the dog-boy.

Soon Joy is joined by Red and the other boy.

The dogs have lost the trail. Sheriff Norwood and Warden Litoker are at the spot.

"The trail was never really warm," said the warden.

"We'll give the dogs a rest and start again at sunrise."

Negro suspect may survive posse's wounds

News Fri. 10-20-50 Birmingham

A yellow-skinned, gold-toothed Negro, accused of murder and assault at Calera, remained in serious condition at Jefferson-Hillman Hospital today from rifle and shotgun wounds inflicted when he was captured yesterday afternoon.

Attending physicians said the Negro, identified as Cooper Drake, 28, of Calera Route 2, probably would recover. Their five-hour-long fight to save the Negro's life last night apparently was successful.

At one time there were eight doctors and four nurses in the operating room attending Drake. They removed bullets from his stomach and shotgun pellets from his thighs. Six pints of blood were used in transfusions, emptying the blood bank of that type of blood for the time being.

Gov. James E. Folsom said at Montgomery he plans to issue commendations to law officers who helped prevent possible mob violence when the man was captured.

* * *

MEANWHILE, MRS. KATHLEEN HOLLEY, 37-year-old Calera farm wife, was reported improving in the same hospital. She was shot in the hand and face and beaten over the head with a rock by a Negro officers believe is the same one now in the Jefferson-Hillman.

Mrs. Holley was shot and beaten after she had been criminally attacked by a yellow-skinned, gold-toothed, slim Negro, who killed her 4-year-old son, Dale by shooting him through the head.

Officers now in charge of the case said Mrs. Holley would not be permitted to view the Negro as a means of positive identification until he recovered from his wounds.

W. L. Allen, state investigator, said the Negro probably would be placed in a line-up with other Negroes in the customary type of line-up, and then Mrs. Holley would be given an opportunity to make an identification.

Investigator Allen has custody of a .32 caliber, blue-steel revolver and 17 bullets fitting that gun. The gun and bullets were found in a corn crib at the rear of a Negro's home near Calera early yesterday.

Occupants of the home said the gun and bullets were left in the crib by Cooper Drake. Some of Drake's clothing also is being held as evidence by the State Highway Patrol.

No tests have yet been made to determine whether the bullet which killed 4-year-old Dale Holley was fired from that gun.

DEPUTY SHERIFF C. H. FORE, of Columbiana, in Shelby County, said Drake admitted ownership of the .32 blue-steel gun.

News

The deputy said Drake denied shooting the Holley child or attacking Mrs. Holley. The deputy quoted Drake as saying another Negro was responsible.

He told the deputy he fled because he had been shot at Wednesday afternoon and was afraid.

* * *

DRAKE WAS FLUSHED from a sage field at the rear of an abandoned house a mile and a half northwest of Calera by a group of five possemen.

C. C. Rowlan, of Clanton, said the Negro apparently heard his group coming, jumped up and started running.

"We hollered for him to stop," Rowland said. "He didn't stop. We shot everything at him, rifles, shotguns, everything. We hit him more than three times."

Deputy Fore and other officers were nearby. They took the Negro into custody and rushed him to Jefferson-Hillman Hospital for treatment.

The deputy said there was some talk from posemen of killing the Negro, but he talked them out of doing any violence.

* * *

Warrants have been sworn out charging Drake with murder, rape and asasult with intent to murder. The warrants were issued by Sheriff A. E. (Bud) Norwood, of Shelby County.

Another Negro suspect in the case was brought to the hospital yesterday by Sheriff A. A. Pate, of Calhoun County. The Negro had been taken off a train at Anniston because he was light-skinned and had a gold tooth.

Mrs. Holley took one look at the Anniston Negro, and said, "No, sir, that's not the one. The other one is slimmer than that and is almost yellow."

Sheriff Pate said the Anniston Negro, Frank Jones, alias Willie Smith, would be charged with vagrancy.

Funeral services were to be held today for Dale Holley. Surviving are the parents; three sisters, Nelda, Jeanette and Carolyn, and one brother, Phillip.

* * *

FEDERAL PROBATION records here show Drake was sentenced to 12 years for assault with intent to rape by an Army general court-martial at Fort Myers, Fla. The sentence later was reduced to five years.

In 1946, Drake was denied a parole by federal authorities.

He later became eligible for a "conditional release" under federal statutes, but was taken into custody April 29, 1949, at Saginaw

as a conditional release violator. His record showed he was "following the same line of behavior which had resulted in his original conviction."

Three months ago he was freed again under "conditional release" statutes, which provide for time off for good behavior.

8112

Negro Charged With Murder

9-30-50

COLUMBIANA, ALA., Sept. 29—(AP)—A husky Negro accused of crushing Sheriff Luther Bozeman to death beneath his automobile Friday was charged with first degree murder.

Hugh M. Sims, son-in-law of the 50-year-old peace officer, signed a murder warrant, County Solicitor Frank Head reported.

The charge was read to William Franklin Webb, 34, at the Jefferson County Jail in Birmingham. Webb was taken to Birmingham in a 90-mile-an-hour race with angry pursuers Thursday night when a crowd gathered around the small jail here.

The case will be referred to the Shelby County grand jury when it meets Oct. 23, Head said.

Bozeman was [illegible] injured while raiding a group of moonshine stills in western Shelby County Thursday afternoon. Officers said Webb [illegible] up to a still with a carload of empty jugs during the raid.

When the officers attempted to arrest Webb, he deliberately drove his car at the sheriff, State ABC Agent Jack Benton said. Bozeman was struck from behind as he ran for his life.

He died in a Birmingham hospital a few hours later. His right leg was nearly torn off and he suffered numerous other injuries.

Officers halted Webb's car by shooting at the tires after another man, a federal agent, was nearly run down, Benton said.

Rape-Slaying Suspect Caught Near Calera

27g

Deputy Saves Negro From Enraged Posse; Shot Several Times

10-20-50

CALERA, ALA., Oct. 19—(AP)—A Negro sex offender accused of raping a farm wife and killing her 4-year-old son was tracked down and shot Thursday, then saved quickly from possible mob action.

Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore said he talked a small group of enraged members of the posse which captured the man out of killing him.

The fast-talking deputy cooled the anger of the gathering crowd until highway patrolmen arrived. Then he was whisked 37 miles north to Birmingham.

Five members of a posse of more than 1,000 men shot down the suspect, identified as Cooper Drake, 28, Calera, while he fled across a sage patch.

Highway Patrolman Harry Johnson identified the wounded man as Drake, a gold-toothed young ex-serviceman with a record of sex violence.

Johnston helped guard the semi-conscious Negro as he was carried to the same Birmingham where the rape victim, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, was under treatment.

Mrs. Holly was raped, shot and left for dead during a three-hour ordeal of brutality in and near her log cabin home Wednesday. Little Dale Holley was killed while his mother clutched him in her arms.

While the wounded man was treated in the Jefferson-Hillman emergency room, she lay in another part of the hospital, sobbing hysterically.

"He was only four," she wept. "He was only four. . . "

To See Mrs. Holley

Officers planned to let Mrs. Holley view the badly wounded Negro in an effort to obtain a postive identification as the alleged attacker.

Doctors said this probably would not be possible before Friday. Drake suffered a severe stomach wound and his thighs were torn by buckshot, they reported.

The Negro was riddled with shotgun and rifle slugs from the waist down just 24 hours after Mrs. Holley staggered to country store, pleading, " go get my baby."

Deputy Fore said Drake before lapsinginto a semi-coma, told of keeping just a jump ahead of pursuers through the night.

Drake said bloodhounds "almost got me" yesterday. He recalled being shot at twice and losing hit hat.

Deputq Fore said the Negro denied taking part in the crime, but admitted a .32 caliber pistol found near the scene belonged to him.

Caught Near Calera

E. E. Rowland, member of the group that captured the Negro, said the possemen flushed the man about 3 1-2 miles west of Calera.

"He just jumped and ran," Rowland said. "We hollered for him to stop. He kept on running and we shot everything at him—rifles, pistols, everything."

Rowland said the Negro was about 100 away when he jumped up.

The manhunt which had filled this densely wooded central Alabama section with roving bands of armed and angry men ended soon afterwards.

"The job's done," a weary officer declared. State highway patrol officers who had taken part in the case returned to their regular duties.

Drake had been named as the principal suspect in the hunt by Sheriff E. A. Norwood. He was released only three months ago aftering an Army rape sentence.

Sentenced For Assault

Federal probation records at Birmingham showed Drake was sentenced to 12 years by an Army court-martial for assault with intent to rape at Fort Myers, Fla. The sentence was reduced to five years on Aug. 14, 1946, by a military reviewing board.

Drake was given a conditional release from federal prison in 1948 but was rearrested April 29, 1949 as a violator of the conditional release in a case involving a Negro woman. He He served at the federal prison in Atlanta until July 25, 1950, when he again was given a conditional release.

27g 1950 Alabama 8113 X

ALABAMA COPS FOIL MOB

Lanett, Ala.-An almost certain Lynching was narrowly averted here early last Wednesday when a small determined group of state highway patrolmen snatched from the grasp of about 500 angry whites, Jack Tucker, 26, accused of brutally beating a white mother and her daughter with a flat-iron.

The mob had trailed the suspect from the 500-acre farm of Mrs. Ella Barrow, 68, and her daughter, Sara 35, with three bloodhounds, to an outlying Negro residential section where he was cornered in an alley. When the heavily armed mob closed in on him Tucker is said to have help up his hands protesting innocence.

It was at this point that the highway patrolmen came up, pushed through the lynch-bent crowd and took the suspect to the town jail. Despite Police Chief Jack Rearden's promise that there would be no trouble, Tucker was shortly afterwards taken to Montgomery under a heavy escort of highway patrol cars of police.

As a result of the alleged assault Mrs. Barrow is confined in a West Point, Ga. hospital and was said to be in a critical condition. Her daughter was less seriously injured. The women were assualted while they sat in their home listening to a radio program.

Courier
Sat. 4-8-50
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Police Avert Lynching

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Gov. James E. Folsom granted reprieves last Friday to two condemned men scheduled to die in the Kilby Prison electric chair.

The men, Jim Arrington of Crenshaw County, and Lonnie James Ball of Calhoun County, were given stays of execution until June 16. Convictions of both Arrington and Ball were recently upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court.

Courier

Arrington was convicted in an atmosphere of mob tension of raping a white woman. Evidence later brought to light points to a mutual clandestine affair between him and the woman in the case.

27g.

MOB CHEERS RESULT

He was granted a reprieve to permit his attorney to file an appeal to the Federal District Court in Montgomery for a habeas corpus writ.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

At the time of his conviction in Luverne, Ala., a howling mob of almost 1,000 whites gave a blood-thirsty yell of approval. Later a number of them attempted to seize him from highway patrolmen who removed him from the jail to waiting cars which sped him to Kilby Prison for safe keeping.

Ball, sentenced to death for what has been described as the self-defense killing of the Oxford, Ala., police chief, was given a respite from the death chair because his lawyer is engaged in court this week and unable to represent him at a clemency hearing.

Negro Accused of Deliberate Murder Of Sheriff Spirited Off to Safety

27g

COLUMBIANA, Ala. — (ANP) — William Franklin Webb, 34-year-old Birmingham resident accused of deliberately crushing to death a sheriff beneath his car, was spirited to the safety of the Jefferson county jail at Birmingham Thursday night after an angry mob threatened to storm the local jail. Victim of the incident was Sheriff Luther Bozeman.

Black Dispatch

According to State Liquor Investigator Jack Benton, he and Bozeman were taking part in a raid on a group of stills in western Shelby county. He said that Webb deliberately steered his auto at the sheriff, who died several hours later of injuries sustained from being run-over.

Intended Victim Accused of County Sheriff's Death

Courier

Sat. 10-7-50

Pittsburgh, Pa.

COLUMBIANA, Ala.—A suspect who escaped possible lynching last week when officers sped at a 90-mile-per-hour clip to outdistance a mob caravan, was charged with murder Friday in the death of Shelby County Sheriff Luther Bozeman.

27g

The prisoner, William Franklin Webb, 34, of Birmingham, was charged with willful killing of the sheriff by crushing him under the wheels of his (Webb's) automobile.

Ala

The case will be presented to a Shelby County grand jury Oct. 23.

SHERIFF RAIDING STILLS

The murder warrant was sworn out Friday by Hugh M. Sims, the dead sheriff's son-in-law. Sheriff Bozeman, 50, was struck by Webb's car while he was raiding moonshine stills in western Shelby County.

Other officers participating in the raid said Webb drove up while they were at a still and ran over Bozeman when they sought to arrest him.

Webb denied he intended running over the law officer and said he did not see him because of high grass. He was arrested, jailed here and later moved to Birmingham for safekeeping when an armed mob of 200 surrounded the jail bent upon lynching him.

35-MILE CHASE

Officers had to draw guns to force their way through the crowd to waiting Highway Patrol cars and patrolmen had to outrun at 90 miles an hour about fifteen carloads of mobsters seeking Webb's blood.

The chase lasted for more than thirty-five miles toward Birmingham.

Lanett Negro Held In Kilby After 2 White Women Beaten

Advertiser Thurs. 3-30-50

+ ~~Lynching prevented~~

By REX THOMAS

LANETT, ALA., March 29—(AP)—With a Negro in prison for safekeeping, officers began a determined investigation Wednesday to find out who bludgeoned two white women almost to death with an electric iron.

The Negro, 26-year-old Jack Tucker of Lanett, was captured early Wednesday after a tense 10-hour manhunt which attracted an estimated 800 heavily armed white citizens and threatened to become violent.

27g Ala

An angry band of some 100 men surrounded Tucker after state highway patrolmen and sheriff's deputies caught him, but the Negro was rushed unharmed to Kilby Prison at Montgomery 90 miles away.

He insisted he had nothing to do with the beating and that "you got the wrong man."

No charge was filed against him immediately, but Sheriff J. M. Abney said a warrant probably would be sworn out shortly. He was undecided on the specific charge, and so was County Solicitor Gene Fuller.

The dramatic manhunt began late Tuesday afternoon after 68-year-old Mrs. Ella Barrow and her daughter, Sara, 35, were beaten on the head with an iron so severely that the weapon was bent. Bloodstanined and matted with hair, it was found outside their home where the attack took place.

Both women were in critical condition in a hospital at West Point, Ga., just across the state line from Lanett.

Violence threatened to break out when the Negro was taken into custody, said Deputy Sheriff C. H. Milford. "We had to talk and beg hard," he related, "but we got them to let us take him without any trouble."

Milford said one man in the crowd leveled a shotgun at Tucker, but officers knocked it down and no shot was fired.

Advertiser

With a motorcade of highway patrol cars racing through town at 90 miles an hour while others blocked intersecting streets, the Negro was hurried first to the patrol station at Opelika, Ala., for questioning and later to Kilby.

3-30-50

He protested that he was in Opelika when the two women were attacked, and that "I ain't been in that white lady's house."

27g

It was the third racial incident in and near Lanett in Chambers County in recent weeks, and Sheriff Abney commented bluntly that "we're tired of it."

Negro Is Held In Man's Death

Advertiser Fri. 4-14-50

WEDOWEE, ALA., April 13—(AP)—A 20-year-old Negro tenant charged with the killing of a prominent white farmer was spirited out of Randolph County to an undisclosed jail Thursday.

27g

Sheriff T. C. Kirby said James Sterling has been placed in another jail for safekeeping as a "precautionary measure." The sheriff said he had heard of no threats against Sterling.

Kirby said he still was without a motive for the killing of 60-year-old Robert Camp on one of his farms Wednesday. He was struck in the chest by a shotgun charge.

Ala

The shooting was witnessed by several members of Sterling's family, he said. It took place in a field near the tenant farmer's home.

A deputy questioned the Negro after he gave himself up at the sheriff's office here. Kirby said he had not received a statement from Sterling.

10-Hour Manhunt Ends; Negro Caught

News Wed. 3-29-50

Barefoot Suspect Protests Innocence; Mob Howls

27g Ala

LANETT, Ala., March 29—(AP)—A barefoot Negro suspected of battering two white women into helplessness with an electric iron was captured here early today after a dramatic 10-hour manhunt.

Protesting his innocence, 26-year-old Jack Tucker was rushed to Kilby Prison at Montgomery for safekeeping after state highway patrolmen and sheriff's deputies persuaded an angry band of armed citizens to refrain from violence.

Tucker, who insisted "I ain't done nothing—you got the wrong man," was hurried at 90 miles an hour first to Opelika, Ala., then to Kilby Prison.

Birmingham

* * *

THE TWO white women, Mrs Ella Barrow, 68, and her daughter, Sara, were reported in critical condition meanwhile at a hospital in West Point, Ga.

Ala

Lanett and West Point are adjoining textile mill towns on the Alabama-Georgia border.

Highway patrolmen said the Negro was taken into custody after dogs from Kilby Prison traced him to a Negro community in Lanett.

No charge was filed against Tucker immediately. Sheriff J. M. Abney of Chambers County, in which Lanett is located, said a warrant probably would be sworn out during the day, but he was undecided about the specific charge.

Deputy Sheriff C. H. Millford, one of the officers taking part in the capture, said a group of about 100 men, armed and looking for the Negro themselves, swarmed around him as Tucker was hustled into a highway patrol car.

"We had to talk and beg hard," Milford related, "but we got them to let us take him without any trouble."

Racing out of Lanett while other officers blocked roads to keep crowds from following, a motorcade of six highway patrol cars speeded Tucker to the patrol station at Opelika, 20 miles away.

Questioned there, the Negro was taken later in the morning to Kilby.

SHERIFF ABNEY said a special Grand Jury "probably" will be called to investigate the attack on the two women. The next regular Grand Jury doesn't meet until September.

At least three incidents involving opposite races have taken place in Chambers County in recent weeks, and Sheriff Abney said "we're tired of it."

Two LaFayette policemen were acquitted last Wednesday of charges that they beat a Negro prisoner to death in the City Jail.

And two days before that, a Negro was convicted and given a life term for the killing of a white constable at Lanett.

LaFayette, the county seat, is 14 miles west of Lanett.

A POSSE ESTIMATED by Sheriff Abney to number at least 800 armed men joined officers in looking for Tucker last night and the sheriff described the crowd as "hot as hell." He said he feared trouble if the posse got the Negro before officers did.

Tucker became the object of an intense search soon after the attack on the white women became known.

The victims are members of a wealthy and prominent family. The daughter is 35.

The attack occurred yesterday at the Barrows' large country home on a 500-acre farm a mile from Lanett. Officers said robbery was the apparent motive. There was no indication of rape.

The mother and daughter were attacked as they listened to a radio. The younger woman staggered, beaten and bloody, to a neighbor's home to seek aid. She said the first they kknew of their assailant's presence was when they saw him standing over them with the iron.

Milford said a Negro woman told them that Tucker—a "bad" Negro—had gone to the Barrow home.

Tucker insisted to officers, however, that he was in Opelika when the women were attacked.

"I know I ain't been in a white lady's house," he said. "I'd like to meet up with who did it and gave my name."

Reviewing The News

BY WILLIAM GORDON

A 26-year-old Negro who by some fate of Providence escaped a wild mob in Alabama two days ago on an accused attack charge, is to be charged with assault with intent to kill, according to a Lanett, Ala. sheriff. The maximum penalty for such a crime in Alabama is 20 years imprisonment.

Atlanta 27g Ga

Jack Tucker, the victim of the attack charge denies that he was ever involved in a brutal mauling attack of two women in their home near Lanett. The fact that he denies the charge has very little or no weight in a [illegible] area like this, where people are colored with a long existing pattern of intimidation. If Tucker is charged with this attack by the people of this section of Alabama, it is highly likely that he will be serving the 20-year sentence, just as soon as the court meets and the jury has its say. We are almost certain that no matter how much evidence he produces to show his innocence, he is likely to be penalized, if no more than on the grounds of racial background or origin.

Ala Daily World

In direct contrast to what this young Negro [illegible] encounter is a case involving the brutal beating of a Negro to death in Alabama a few days ago by two policemen. After admitting the brutal beating of a youth, the worst they received was a suspension from the force until such time that they would be tried in the court.

Fri 3-31-50

In view of what some decent citizens feel and believe, the suspension was just a "coverup," for for when the cops appeared for trial the jury took a little more than an hour to render a verdict of "not guilty" for the cops.

Lanett Negro To Face Assault To Kill Charge

News
Thurs. 3-30-50
Birmingham, Ala.

LANETT, Ala., March 30—(AP)—A Lanett Negro will be charged with assault with intent to murder in the brutal beating of two white women at their home near here.

The Negro, 26-year-old Jack Tucker, was taken into custody yesterday, climaxing a 10-hour manhunt by state, local and county police.

Some heavily armed white men joined in the search which threatened to become violent.

* * *

TUCKER insisted he had nothing to do with the beatings, when questioned by police and said, "I ain't been in that white lady's house."

The maximum penalty for assault with intent to murder is 20 years imprisonment.

The two women, Mrs. Ella Barrow, 68, and her daughter, Sara, 35, were beaten on the head with an electric iron. Both suffered fractured skulls.

The daughter, blood streaming from her wounds, staggered to a neighbor's house and told of an attack by a Negro.

Police said the motive apparently was robbery.

They were taken to a hospital in West Point, Ga., just across the state line where they were reported to be improving and in "fair" condition.

The Barrows are members of a wealthy and prominent family here. Mrs. Barrow is a widow, her husband having died some 20 years ago.

MRS. EDGAR Burts, of Columbus, Ga., another daughter, said her sister said the women were listening to the radio when the attack took place.

A bloodstained iron, matted with hair, was found outside the house.

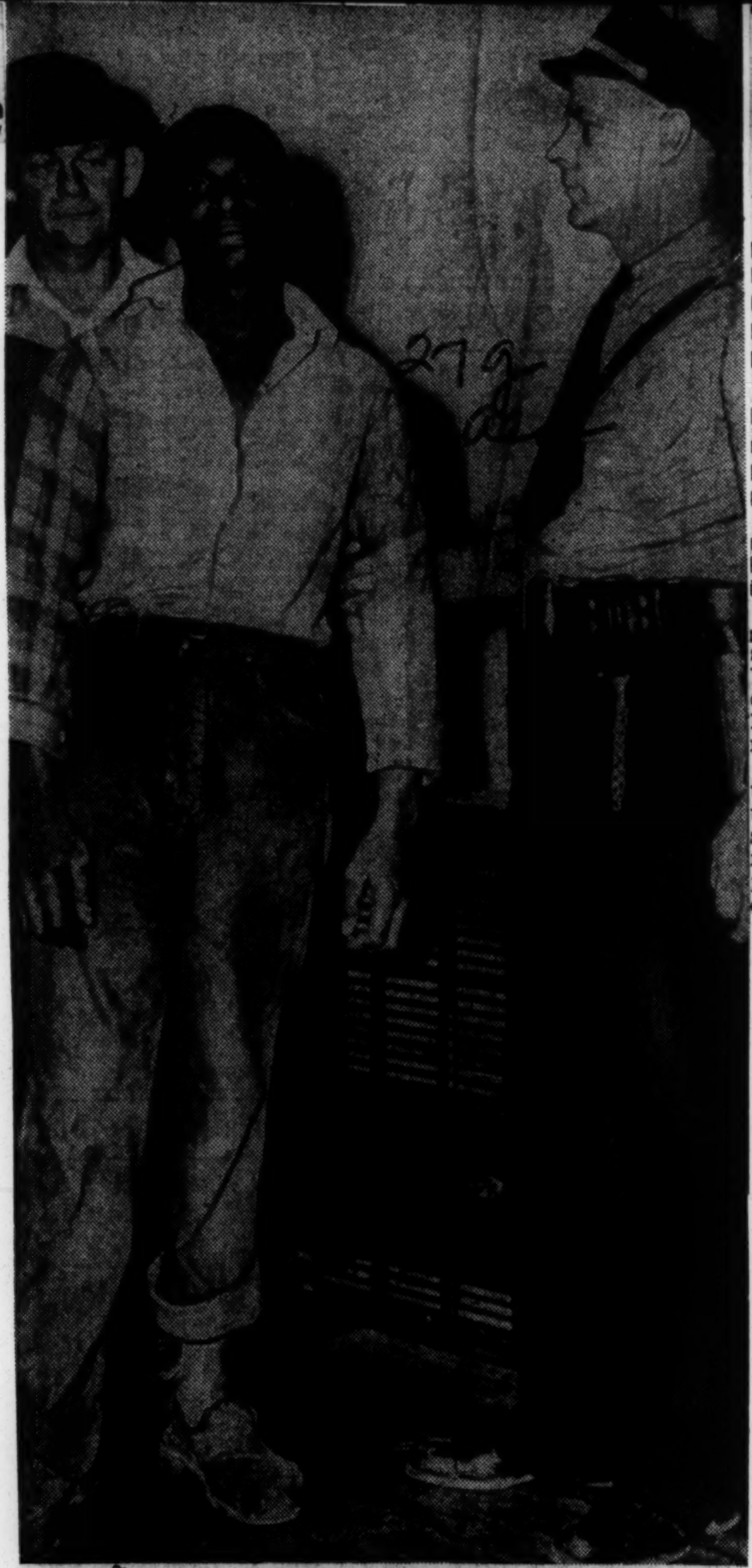
Deputy Sheriff C. H. Milford said the crowd threatened to get violent when Tucker was captured and one man aimed a shotgun at the Negro.

Ala

Officers knocked the gun down, however, and Milford said "we had to talk and beg hard but we got them to let us take him without any trouble."

279

After the Negro's capture, he was rushed to ~~Opelika at a 90-mile~~-an-hour pace by a caravan of Highway Patrol cars. Later, he was moved to Kilby Prison in Montgomery.



279
Ala

[Associated Press Wirephoto]

Tribune Thurs. 3-30-50

Jack Tucker, Negro, with Lanett, Ala., police after he surrendered to 100 manhunters who tracked him thru night. He was wanted for beating two women.

Troopers Save Negro From Alabama Mob

World-Telegram. 279
Wed. 3-29-50

By the United Press.

LANETT, Ala., March 29.—A posse of 1000 white men, many of them armed, chased a Negro fugitive out of the woods with bloodhounds early today and captured him on a dark city street here.

Ala

The Negro, Jack Tucker, was immediately snatched away by state highway patrolmen and locked in Kilby prison at Montgomery for safekeeping.

The manhunt began early last night after two white women were brutally beaten with a flatiron in their farm home.

One of them, Mrs. Ernest Barrow, 75, a widow, was unconscious and in a critical condition in a West Point, Ga., hospital. Her daughter, Sarah Barrow, 35, was hurt but crawled 200 yards to a neighbor's house after the attack.

The ranks of the posse swelled to 1000 men by the time it captured Tucker. Three carloads of state troopers pushed through the mob and shoved Tucker into a patrol car. Then they sped out of town.

8115

Man Held on Rape Charge

Constitution

Tues. 10-31

CHICKAMAUGA, Oct. 30—(AP)—A young Negro was held at an undisclosed jail for "safe-keeping" after a white mother of six children told police she was dragged from her home and raped Sunday night.

Chickamauga Chief of Police George Arnold said James Avery, about 20, was charged with rape and hurried to a jail outside Walker County "just to be safe."

The woman charged that Avery came to her home and persuaded her oldest son, 14, to go to the Negro's house, about a half-mile distant, at about 8 p. m.

She added the Negro battered down the door and dragged her into the yard after the boy left. She was treated at a Chattanooga hospital after the attack.

The woman said she has been separated from her husband for about seven months.

Arnold said the Negro was intoxicated when arrested shortly after the assault.

Georgia Negro Held On Rape Charges

Advertiser

Tues. 10-31-50

CHICKAMAUGA, GA., Oct. 30—(AP)—A young Negro was held at an undisclosed jail for "safe-keeping" after a white mother of six children told police she was dragged from her home and raped last night.

Chickamauga Chief of Police George Arnold said James Avery, bout 20, was charged with rape and hurried to a jail outside Walker County "just to be safe."

Mrs. Mary Hollingsworth, 35, charged that Avery came to her home and persuaded her oldest son, 14, to go to the Negro's house, about a half-mile distant, at about 8 p.m.

Montgomery

She added the Negro battered down the door and dragged her into the yard after the boy left. She was treated at a Chattanooga hospital after the attack

2d Suspect Nabbed in Blast At Sheriff

REIDSVILLE — (UP) — Forty State troopers and local officers yesterday arrested the second Negro wanted for the shooting of Sheriff Dan Waller near Reidsville Sunday night.

Sgt. J. W. Robertson, of the Highway Patrol, said Possay Greer, 25, was found huddled in a cold, abandoned cabin. He was unarmed and was taken without resistance.

Constitution

Robertson said Greer's brother Jesse Greer, who also was wanted in the shooting, was captured Sunday night shortly after Sheriff Waller was injured.

-50

Robertson said the Sheriff went to investigate a fight at "old Todd place," a farm about 10 miles from Reidsville.

He said the Greer brothers had been in a fight with three other Negroes and that Jesse had shot them with a .410 gauge shotgun.

When Sheriff Waller tried to arrest the Greer brothers he was shot at close range with the shotgun, loaded with birdshot. He was hit in the face, arms, legs and chest.

27g

Robinson said they are holding the two Negroes at an "undisclosed place." He said there has been no indications of violence but that the patrol is "taking no chances."

Ga

Sheriff Waller was reported "resting comfortably" at the Reidsville Hospital.

Daring Rescue

Snatches Man From Floggers

27g

Ga-

EASTMAN, Ga.—A white farmer, single-handed, tackled a mob of twenty-five to thirty armed Klansmen and rescued a Negro whom they were preparing to flog a second time. He was Otho Wiggins, 30, of the Mount Airy community, ten miles southeast of Eastman.

Courier

The flogging victim was Jesse Lee Goodman, a farmhand. Goodman said the Klansmen accused him of stealing oil and refused to believe him when he told them that Wiggins had given it to him.

Sat 3-11-50

According to Wiggins, he heard that the mob had kidnapped Goodman, and were seen passing a country church with him. The farmer took his .22 calibre rifle, jumped into his truck, and set out to find the mob.

Pittsburgh Pa.

FOUND IN WOODS

In a woods nearly two miles away, he saw them. They had already flogged Goodman and were preparing a second dose of the same treaatment. He halted his truck fifty yards away, he said, and started firing into the mob.

"The robed men scattered like chickens," Wiggins said. They fled into the woods, some firing back, but none hit him.

The farmer fired a total of sixteen shots, but did not know whether he had struck any of the mobsters.

NO PROBE PLANNED

According to Wiggins, he reported the incident to Sheriff O. B. Peacock of Dodge County, but Peacock refused to interfere. Wiggins quoted his as saying, "That's none of my business. It belongs to the FBI." Saturday, he is reported to have said he had made no investigation and planned none.

This is the third instance of Klan violence reported in this area in the last four months. In December a white woman, Mrs. Ella Lou Wilkerson, was kidnapped and forced to return to her husband whom she had left, and on Feb. 16, an alleged Klan mob kidnapped Riley Dykes, 45, a crippled Negro, and gave him twenty-five lashes because he "talked too big to a white man."

27g Ga

The sheriff did not interven in these cases either.

27g 1950 Kentucky 8117

Indictment Against Negro Is Dismissed

Courier-Journal

Shelby Judge Rules Jury Not Qualified

Shelby—

Special to The Courier-Journal.

2-9-50

Shelbyville, Ky., Feb. 8.—An indictment charging [illegible] Davis, Negro, with detaining a woman here last December was dismissed in Circuit Court today on a defense plea that no Negro served on the Shelby grand jury that indicted him.

Shelbyville,

Motion for dismissal was sustained by Special Judge Rufus Lisle after Walter B. Smith, Louisville, attorney for Davis, filed an affidavit signed by four Shelby Countians stating that no Negroes ever had served on a Shelby grand jury.

Signers of the affidavit were O. D. Todd, C. Boyd Green, W. W. Jesse, and Victoria Gilbert.

After granting the motion, Judge Lisle, presiding in the absence of Judge [illegible]. Wirt Turner, who is ill, ordered dismissal of the warrant and continued the case to the May term of the grand jury.

Davis, who has been in the Jefferson County Jail for safekeeping since his arrest, was ordered held on failure to post a $[illegible],000 bond.

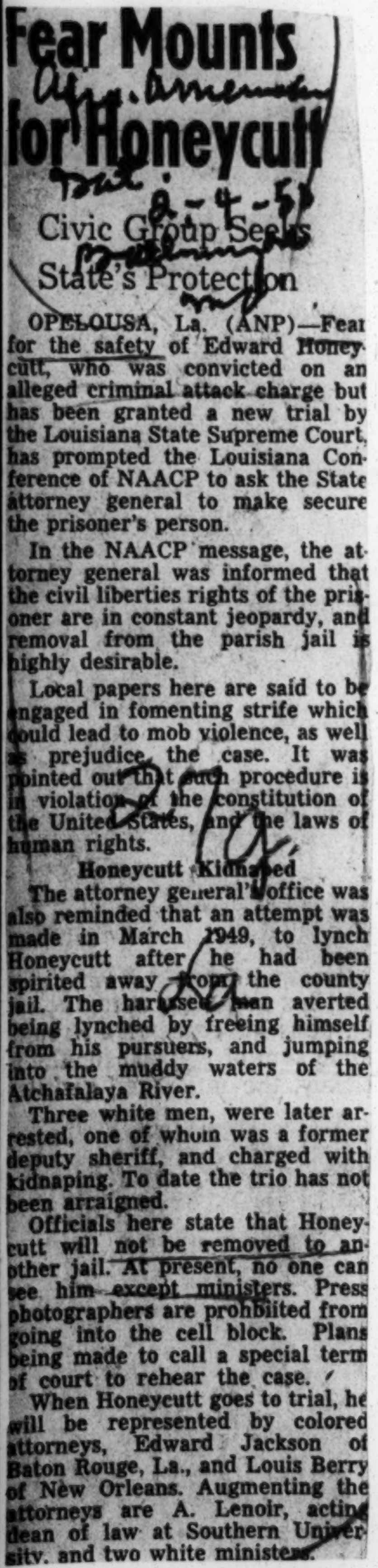
27g

Ky

27g 1950

Louisiana

8118



Fear Mounts for Honeycutt

Afro-American
Balt. 2-4-50
Baltimore, Md.

Civic Group Seeks State's Protection

OPELOUSA, La. (ANP)—Fear for the safety of Edward Honeycutt, who was convicted on an alleged criminal attack charge but has been granted a new trial by the Louisiana State Supreme Court, has prompted the Louisiana Conference of NAACP to ask the State attorney general to make secure the prisoner's person.

In the NAACP message, the attorney general was informed that the civil liberties rights of the prisoner are in constant jeopardy, and removal from the parish jail is highly desirable.

Local papers here are said to be engaged in fomenting strife which could lead to mob violence, as well as prejudice the case. It was pointed out that such procedure is in violation of the constitution of the United States, and the laws of human rights.

27g

Honeycutt Kidnaped

The attorney general's office was also reminded that an attempt was made in March 1949, to lynch Honeycutt after he had been spirited away from the county jail. The harassed man averted being lynched by freeing himself from his pursuers, and jumping into the muddy waters of the Atchafalaya River.

La

Three white men, were later arrested, one of whoin was a former deputy sheriff, and charged with kidnaping. To date the trio has not been arraigned.

Officials here state that Honeycutt will not be removed to another jail. At present, no one can see him except ministers. Press photographers are prohbiited from going into the cell block. Plans being made to call a special term of court to rehear the case.

When Honeycutt goes to trial, he will be represented by colored attorneys, Edward Jackson of Baton Rouge, La., and Louis Berry of New Orleans. Augmenting the attorneys are A. Lenoir, acting dean of law at Southern University, and two white ministers.

27g 1950 ✓

Mississippi

8119 X

Attempted Lynch Probe Underway

Memphis, Tenn. World ✓

Tues. 3-7-50

LELAND, Miss. — (ANP) — Investigation got underway here last week on charges that a Negro farm hand was an attempted lynching victim.

27g

Odell Moore, 23, made sworn statements that he was beaten by white men who accused him of stealing two slot machines. Moore stated that one man held a gun, and he was about to be hanged from a bridge when he jumped off into the icy water, and swam to safety.

Moore reported the incident to his plantation manager, Neal Massey, who called the County Deputy Sheriff to investigate.

Attempted Lynching Is Probed

27g

[illegible] Miss.

LELAND, Miss. — (ANP) — Investigation got under day here last week on charges that a Negro farm hand was an attempted lynching victim.

[illegible] 3-11-50

Odell Moore, 23, made sworn statements that he was beaten by white men who accused him of stealing two slot machines. Moore stated that one man held a gun, and he was about to be hanged from a bridge when he jumped off into the icy water, and swam to safety.

Moore reported the incident to his plantation manager, Neal Massey, who called the county deputy sheriff to investigate.

Attempted Lynch Probe Underway

Daily World

Sun.

27g

3-5-50

LELAND, Miss. — (ANP) — Investigation got underway here last week on charges that a Negro farm hand was an attempted lynching victim.

Atlanta

Odell Moore, 23, made sworn statements that he was beaten by white men who accused him of stealing two slot machines. Moore stated that one man held a gun, and he was about to be hanged from a bridge when he jumped off into the icy water, and swam to safety.

Moore reported the incident to his plantation manager, Neal Massey, who called the County Deputy Sheriff to investigate.

Escapes Lynchers

LELAND, Miss. — Investigation got underway here last week on charges that a Negro [illegible] hand was an [illegible] lynching victim.

Odell Moore, 23, made [illegible] statements that he was beaten by white [illegible] who accused him of [illegible] two slot machines. Moore stated that [illegible] held a gun, and he was about to [illegible] hanged from a bridge when he jumped off into the icy water, and swam to safety.

Pittsburgh [illegible] 3-11-50

27g

8120 X

8120

Accused Rapist Saved From Possible Lynching

Daily News

CORUNNA, Mich. — (AP) — An ex-convict accused of the rape-murder of his eight-year-old niece was whisked to a jail 25 miles away today to prevent a possible lynching.

Mon.

6-26-50

Prosecutor Gerald F. McClear said he would charge 32-year-old Clifford Pulver with raping and choking to death with her nightgown brown-eyed little Virginia Bird.

Jackson

Pulver surrendered quietly last night when patrolmen spotted him at a suburban gas station. He was taken to the Shiawasse county jail, but Sheriff Charles Downer later sped him out the back door to the Genesee county jail in Flint when several men gathered outside the prison.

27g

"We took him away for his own safety," Downer said. "Two or three men were trying to get a crowd excited, and there was no telling what might have happened."

Mich.

Pulver denied the attack. He said he slapped the girl when she woke him up early yesterday "and then I blacked out."

Downer said Pulver, released from Jackson state prison in March after serving a term for robbery, was a close friend of the little girl's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bird and frequently stayed at their home overnight.

The Birds let him sleep on a daybed only a few feet from the davenport on which Virginia was lying.

The girl's parents found her body yesterday morning with her nightgown jammed in her mouth. Downer said she had been "horribly raped." Pulver had vanished.

He told authorities when arrested that Virginia awakened him and told him he was "snoring too loudly." Pulver said he slapped the girl "and then I blacked out."

"I woke up in a field," he said. "I realized that I had done something bad, but I don't remember what."

Pulver's wife, who is dead, was Virginia's aunt.

DANGER OF RACE RIOT IS AVERTED

Times-Picayune

Fears Spread After Detroit Policeman Is Slain

Mon-11-20-50

(The Associated Press)

Detroit, Nov. 19 — A policeman was killed Sunday and another wounded in a shooting that spread the ugly fear of "race riot" around Detroit's teeming East Side.

Police rushed out their riot squads and called 100 reinforcements to guard against an outbreak.

New Orleans

La.

But after an afternoon of tense watching, while 2000 Negroes lined the street and crowded upon bayonet-armed police, danger was declared abated.

27g

Police said a 53-year-old Negro, Charles Marshall Gordy Sr., admitted to them he shot the patrolmen while they were taking Gordy's son away for questioning on a holdup charge.

Mich

Killed was Patrolman Andreas Mellert Jr., 30, a veteran of three years on the police force. Wounded was Patrolman David Morgan, 23. His condition was reported not serious.

Murder Charged

Police said they were charging Gordy with first-degree murder. He was captured after 62 policemen surrounded Gordy's house and forced out Gordy's whole family by laying down a barrage of shots and tear gas. No one was injured.

James A. Hoye, director of traffic, said extra patrolmen were called out just in case the crowd misinterpreted why his men fired shots and tear gas bombs at the house.

Police told this story of the shooting:

Gordy's son, Charles Marshall Jr., 31, had been arrested earlier Sunday on a reckless driving charge. But he was released. Police checked their records, however, and found he was wanted on an unarmed holdup charge.

Two patrolmen, Mellert and Morgan, were sent to the Gordy house. Young Gordy put up an argument but they handcuffed him and led him out the front door.

The elder Gordy grabbed a .30-.30 rifle and fired through a window, killing Mellert, police quoted the graying, subdued man as saying.

Morgan then yanked his gun and ducked behind a post. Police said Gordy's second shot struck the post, splintering it. Morgan was wounded in the face by the fragments. He was not seriously hurt.

Fired at Windows

Meanwhile 62 patrolmen converged on the house and fired a barrage at windows to keep any occupants from firing another shot.

Under this protective cover a team went in and recovered Mellert's body and the wounded Morgan. The younger Gordy surrendered to another patrolman.

Officers hurled tear gas bombs into the house, flushing out the occupants, which included Gordy's family and another family.

The elder Gordy walked out nonchalantly and tried to slip away at the rear of the house. He was chuckling, police said, as they took him into custody.

The dead patrolman is a World War II veteran. His wife, who is expecting their first child next month, first heard the report of her husband's death on the radio and collapsed.

Director Hoye said "thousands" of spectators immediately gathered at the scene. Officers, wary of a repetition of the Detroit race riots in 1943 which saw 34 killed and 700 injured, took steps to control the crowd.

Hoye said 51 extra patrolmen and two commando squads totaling about 50 men were called out. Scout cars moved throughout the area.

By late afternoon all the onlookers and other large groups had dispersed, Hoye said.

Both officers were white. Mellert had received three citations for meritorious police work.

27g 1950 North Carolina

8121

Saves White Man From White Mob

4-22-50

MOUNT HOLLY, N.C.—In a complete reversal for the old Southern pattern, a 39-year-old Duke Power Company employee rescued a white man from a white mob bent on lynching him.

27g

The hero of the rescue is Lucius Reid of this city; the near-victim is Mr. Perry who lives in Charlotte.

Mr. Reid, with his wife, Mrs. Essie M. Reid, and two other women, Mrs. Ella Moore and Beulah Morrison, was driving along a road when Mr. Perry struggled into sight screaming "Don't let them kill me!"

At the time, Mr. Reid said, Perry's face and body were covered with blood.

Jumps Out of Car to Rescue

Ignoring the panic-stricken cries of the women in the car, Mr. Reid jumped out of his car and ran around to the side. The white pursuers of Perry fled, he said.

While I did not see but two, I am certain that there was a third man, Mr. Reid told the AFRO.

After the men had gone, Mr. Reid put the badly beaten white man in his car and sped to the nearest police station. There the local officer immediately called the State patrol at Gastonia, the county seat.

Bloodhounds were brought in

Park, and Franklin H. Williams, assistant special NAACP counsel asked the court to reverse the conviction of Samuel Shepherd and Walter L. Irvin—both sentenced to death—and to order a new trial for them.

They did not appeal the conviction of Charles Greenlee, sentenced to life imprisonment, because in a new trial, any evidence which would bring about the acquittal of Shepherd and Irvin would, it is believed, also free Greenlee.

Issues Raised

The legal and constitutional issures, raised were:

1. Denial of motions for change of venue and for continuance, or postponement of the trial.

The lawyers contended that a fair and impartial trial was impossible in an atmosphere where "mobs demanded that the defendants be turned over to them, burned one of their houses, and terrorized their families and other colored people."

Hostility Cited

Widespread newspaper publicity and great community hostility toward the defendants was also cited by the lawyers when the motion was made for removal of the trial to a less inflamed area.

Postponement of the trial had been requested to allow defense counsel ample time for obtaining evidence and properly preparing their case.

2. That the selection of persons for the jury from voters' registration rolls constituted a denial of the defendants' rights under the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Colored people appear on voters' registration lists in the ratio of one to each 16 white persons, whereas the ratio of colored people possessing the statutory qualifications for jury service is about one to each four white persons.

27g

Other Denials

3. Denial of permission to subpoena the grand jury lists over a 30-year period.

4. Denial of a motion to withdraw the pleas and set aside arraignment to allow the defense to file pre-arraignment motions.

5. The brutal beatings of the defendants by law enforcement officers, and

6. The time element which would have made it impossible for the defendants to commit the crime.

FBI Tags Officers

While the appeal was being heard, preparations were being made for the presentation of evidence by the FBI to a special grand jury in Ocala on Monday, Apr. 17.

The Justice Department is seeking an indictment of police officers who were accused by the NAACP of beating and otherwise mistreating Shepherd, Irvin, and Greenlee.

MOB IS CALMED BY POLICE GUARD

Times-Picayune

4000 Theaten Vengeance Against Triple-Slayer

Tues. 8-15-50

(The Associated Press)

27g

Walhalla, S. C., Aug. 14—Police and National Guardsmen restored calm in this quiet mountain town early Monday after a mob, officially estimated up to 4000, threatened vengeance against a confessed triple-slayer.

The angry crowd gathered Sunday night after the bodies of two girls, Jonnie May Boyter, 14, and her sister, Jo Ann, 8, had been found in a lonely, wooded ravine near Highlands, N. C. They had been strangled. The shotgun blasted body of their father, John Boyter, a 38-year-old GI trade school student, was found last week near Clayton, Ga. A motive hasn't been announced.

The crowd disbanded slowly during the predawn hours after Sheriff Eddie Weathers called out 50 Guardsmen. Later officers removed Curtis Shedd, 30, an ex-convict, to the safety of a Gainesville, Ga., jail. The slain man's widow, Mrs. Christine Boyter, 30, was taken to Gainesville for questioning but South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina authorities said no charges have been made against her.

Officers reported Sunday night that the crowd was mostly curious but witnesses added Monday that shouts of "We want Shedd . . . We'll kill him" rang out from members of the group. Appeals were made to the crowd by Sheriff Weathers, solicitor Rufus Fant, state highway patrolmen and other officials.

Mob Threatening Confessed Slayer In Jail Disbands

Courier-Journal

Walhalla, S. C., Aug. 14 (AP)—Police and National Guard members restored calm in this quiet mountain town early today after a mob, officially estimated up to 4,000, threatened vengeance against a confessed triple slayer.

Tues. 8-15-50

27g

The angry crowd gathered last night after the bodies of two girls, Jonnie May Boyter, 14, and her sister, Jo Ann, 8, had been found in a lonely, wooded ravine near Highlands, N. C. The shotgun-blasted body of their father, John Boyter, 38, was found last week near Clayton, Ga.

S.C.

The crowd disbanded slowly after Sheriff Eddie Weathers called out 50 guardsmen. Later officers removed Curtis Shedd, 30, an ex-convict, to a Gainesville, Ga., jail. The slain man's widow, Mrs. Christine Boyter, 30, was taken to Gainesville for questioning, but South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina authorities said no charges had been made against her.

Ky

Angry Mob Goes To Get Triple-Slayer

Post-Herald

Tues. 8-15-50

Young Girls' Bodies Found In Woods

27g

WALHALLA, S. C., Aug. 14 (AP)—Police and National Guardsmen restored calm in this quiet mountain town early today after a mob, officially estimated up to 4000, threatened vengeance against a confessed triple-slayer.

Birmingham Ala

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S.C.

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The slain man's widow, Mrs. Christine Boyter, 30, was taken to Gainesville for questioning but South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina authorities said no charges have been made against her.

Officers reported last night that the crowd was mostly curious but witnesses added today that shouts of "We want Shedd . . . we'll kill him" rang out from members of the group.

Discovery of Boyter's body last Wednesday in a heavily wooded area just inside the Georgia line touched off the search for his two missing daughters.

Police said Shedd, after hours of questioning, yesterday admitted shooting Boyter and led them to the bodies of the two children. The admission was reported by Woody Wilson, an agent of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Shedd was charged with murder.

27g 1950 South Carolina ✓

8123

Slayer of Two Girls Threatened by Mob

Constitution

By BILL DIEHL and BOB CHRISTIAN
Constitution Staff Writers

WALHALLA, S. C., Aug. 14—A crowd estimated at between 1,500 and 2,000 men and women dwindled to less than 300 early Monday as police and South Carolina National Guardsmen kept order at the Oconee County Jail here.

Inside the jail, a three-story white frame building with a rounded abutment at one end which gives it an appearance of a fortress, was Curtis Shedd, an ex-convict who confessed Sunday that he choked two young sisters to death and killed their father with a shotgun.

Shedd was brought to the jail here from Clayton, where he made his confession to Oconee County Sheriff Eddie Weathers.

Word that Shedd was in the jail spread quickly throughout the community and area, and the crowd gathered in front of the structure, in an angry mood.

Mon. 8-14-50

As the crowd milled about the jail, Sheriff Waters augmented his own force of deputies by calling 25 South Carolina State Patrolmen and Batttry A, 678th Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, under command of Capt. William C. Jones.

Atlanta Ga

In addition, a score of police from Anderson, S. C., 40 miles from here, was also summoned to prevent any outbreak of mob violence.

The Guardsmen, mainly local men, stood with drawn rifles as they threw a cordon around the jail. They wore green, or in some cases, khaki, fatigue uniforms. The crowd, at first sullen and in angry mood, became more passive as the night wore on.

Sheriff Weathers declined comment on the possibility of mob action, but Capt. Jones said:

"We were called here strictly as a precautionary measure. As yet there has been no violence."

Asked if violence was expected, Capt. Jones declined further comment.

Main Street, the principal thoroughfare of Walhalla, which is situated two blocks from the jail, was crowded with automobiles and persons on foot. The topic of conversation here, as in farm homes outside the city, was Shedd's admitted part in the deaths of the two girls and their father.

Clusters of persons first appeared about the jail at noon shortly after ex-convict Curtis Shedd was taken to Walhalla from Clayton not far across the Georgia border after confessing the triple slaying.

Shedd, 30-year-old ex-robber, claimed he killed the children on pistol point orders from their mother and that he also killed their father with a shotgun blast.

Shedd was taken to Walhalla after he directed authorities to their mud-spattered bodies on a scenic North Carolina mountain highway.

The bodies of Johnnie Mae Boyter, 14, and her 8-year-old sister, Jo Ann, were recovered about 4:30 a. m. Sunday from underbrush beside the famous Highlands-Franklin Highway in the North Carolina mountain resort country.

Weathers said Shedd broke down at 2 a. m. Sunday at the Rabun County Jail in Clayton and made a full confession of the bizarre triple slaying and at the same time implicated the mother of the girls.

Weathers said Shedd told him and other South Carolina and Georgia officers that he choked the girls to death because Mrs. Boyter ordered him to do it and stood over him with a pistol while he throttled them.

The mother was arrested for questioning and lodged in the Oconee County jail at Walhalla, home of the three victims. She denied having anything to do with the slayings.

Shedd had been under arrest since the discovery of the body of John Boyter, 38, last Wednesday near a woodland road in the Northeast Georgia mountains near the South Carolina border. He and his daughters had been missing from their Walhalla home since Aug. 3.

Shedd was picked up as a result of information that he was seen with Boyter and the girls, on separate occasions, on the day they disappeared.

Shedd had been shunted from one jail to another since his arrest and he was moved again Sunday, back to Oconee County Jail where Mrs. Boyter was confronted by him and his confession.

Facing him, she continued to deny after four hours of grilling that she was involved in the crime.

Georgia Bureau of Investigation Agent Woody Wilson, of Toccoa, the man who brought Shedd to Atlanta from Clayton for lie detector tests, and Dr. Herman D. Jones, of the Fulton County Crime Laboratory, were reportedly working Sunday in Walhalla with South Carolina police at piecing the entire case together.

An autopsy was performed Sunday on the bodies of the two children, but Dr. Jones declined to discuss the results.

Dr. Jones declined to say if the girls were criminally attacked. The two bodies were badly decomposed. He said, however, "we were able to determine enough to be of some help to investigating officers."

Mob of 14 Seized After Negro Kills 1 to Save Dad

[illegible]

Wed. 12-13-50

Son, 14, Shoots to Stop Kidnaping; Gang Accused of Plotting Murder

New [illegible]

By the United Press.

GREENWOOD, S. C., Dec. 13.—Authorities rounded up 14 men today and accused them of conspiring to kidnap and kill a Negro who was saved when his 14-year-old son killed a member of the group.

279

Sheriff J. Cal White swore out warrants against the men, residents of Greenwood and nearby Abbeville, S. C., and worked through the night to arrest them.

~~Boy Released.~~

He had released under $1000 bond teen-age Clayton Moore Jr., who was charged with killing George F. Ferguson, 41, of Abbeville. Mr. Ferguson's body was found last Wednesday outside the rural home of the Moore family.

John Moore, grandfather of the youth, said that after dark last Tuesday a car drove up to the house, eight miles from here, and the white men in it asked for water for their radiator. Clayton Moore Sr. started with three of them toward a well 200 yards away.

Intruder Killed.

"This is far enough," he quoted one of the men as saying as he pulled a pistol and grabbed the Negro, a mill janitor. He said the men then threatened to take Mr. Moore with them and "kill him if he said anything." He was struck on the head and later required medical treatment.

Mr. Moore shouted for help. Clayton Jr. came out of the house with a shotgun, the grandfather said, and one of the men ran toward him. The boy fired and the white man fell in the yard.

Mr. Moore and his son got into the house and locked the doors, not knowing that Mr. Ferguson was dead. The other men left in their automobile, which was joined by another which had been parked near by.

No Explanation.

John Moore said he found Mr. Ferguson's body the next morning when he went to the house to find why his son had not reported for work. Sheriff White was notified and Clayton Moore Sr. was jailed briefly during an investigation and then the son was arrested.

Authorities at the mill said Clayton Sr. was a good employee and they knew of no reason for the attack upon him.

Att'y Huff Saves Man From Tenn. Mob

daily world

27g Tenn

It appears that on October 1, 1949, Maceo Addison Simmons was driving in the neighborhood of Phillipi, Lake County, Tennessee, between 10:30 and 11:30 p. m., and that he was ordered to stop by Haynes, the sheriff of that county, and as he stopped and alighted the sheriff commenced to beat him across the face and other parts of the body, with a blackjack, cutting a gash under his eye, and beating bruises on his head and other parts of his body; that the sheriff shot him, but the bullet grazed his stomach but did not enter.

Atlanta Ga

At this point, Simmons knocked the sheriff down, kicked the gun out of his hand and ran back to his car and ran toward his home in Hickman, Fulton County, Kentucky; that a mob followed him across the line and ran him so fast until he was compelled to run up a gravel road onto a railroad track, whereon he wrecked his car, and that after wrecking his car, he ran to a ditch on foot and continued toward home; that enroute home, he met another Negro who told him that a mob had formed in the neighborhood of his home and vowed to kill him the moment he was seen; that Simmons then went in hiding where he remained until he could make his way out of the state and out of the section.

The mob did go to his home between three and four o'clock on the morning of October 2 and used all kinds of vile and obscene language in the presence of his wife, stating he was to be shot down the moment they saw him. The mob even picked up her shoes and looked them over to see if they had mud upon them, or dirt, believing that she was the woman who ran from the car when the altercation started.

Weekly World

Simmons, who is a graduate from Kentucky State College at Frankfort, and who was a teacher of Agricultural Farming in Hickman, Fulton County, Kentucky, after learning that the FBI was seeking him, retained Atty. William Henry Huff.

The authorities of Tennessee soon learned that they would not be able to extradite Simmons by way of the Federal Warrant, so they dismissed that warrant and secured the Government Warant, wheeupon Atty. Huff immediately filed a Writ of Habeas Corpus in the Criminal Court of Cook County.

The final hearing on the writ was Friday, January 6, at which time Atty. Huff and Atty. Irving Siegal argued that should Simmons be returned to Tennessee, he would be unable to get a fair trial, and the possibility was that he would be lynched by unauthorized parties.

Atlanta Ga

At the close of the argument Atty. Huff moved that the Writ be sustained and that Simmons be discharged. Chief Justice Lynch, in discharging him, said that he did not believe the story of the deputy sheriffs of Lake County, Tennessee and he was of the opinion that the group which crossed the line from Tennessee into Kentucky, intended to do bodily harm to Simmons.

Police Gunfire Scatters Mob

Advertiser

Group Tries To Seize Tennessee Man Held In 'Hex' Slaying

Thurs

ROGERSVILLE, TENN., Aug. 23—(AP)—Police gunfire scattered a mob which tried Wednesday to seize a man charged with the hex-slaying of two women.

8-24-50

Sheriff Bradley Blair said at least two men were wounded in the quick gun battle which erupted around the Hawkins County jail here in the early morning darkness. The mob of 300 fled as state highway patrolmen armed with machine guns raced to the scene.

27g

Between 15 and 20 shots were fired as the crowd stormed the jail to get Carl Walters, 40-year-old mountaineer held without bond on a charge of murder in the slaying of two women he claims had "put a hex" on him.

Tenn

Walters later was hauled away to an undisclosed jail some distance from this east Tennessee town of 2,400, about 65 miles northeast of Knoxville.

The gun battle broke out when the mob swarmed onto the jail porch and shook the door, demanding Walters. A deputy fired a shotgun through a window and members of the crowd returned the shot.

The throng fell back and surrounded three sides of the jail. Bullets flew back and forth for about 10 minutes, then the mob faded away, the sheriff said.

Blood was found at the jail entrance and around a corner, half a block away. Grover Compton, about 35, of nearby Kingsport, was arrested later at a hospital where he was receiving treatment for shotgun wounds. Blair said Compton, not seriously wounded, was held without charge for questioning.

Police Gunfire Scatters Mob

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Advertiser

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Thurs 8-24-50 27g

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Montgomery Ala.

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Women Put Hex On Him, He Says

ROGERSVILLE, Tenn.—(AP)—Officers with blazing guns repulsed a howling mob of 300 armed men who beseiged Hawkins county jail today, demanding custody of a "bewitched" killer who shot two women to death.

Sheriff Bradley Blair commanded a small force of deputies, city policemen and state troopers who defended the prison successfully with pistols and shotguns until reinforcements arrived after an hour's battle.

The officers wounded at least one member of the mob which circled the jail like a band of Indians attacking a desert wagon train, firing on the run.

Blair said two pools of blood found later in widely separated spots led him to believe that at least two of the mobsters were hit. Only one turned up at area hospitals.

27g

Tennessee Patrolman Grover C. Cox of Rogersville, who arrived with reinforcements, estimated that the irate mob included at least 300 persons.

Tenn

Gathering since late yesterday afternoon, the gang grew wild about midnight and demanded that 40-year-old Carl Walters, a self-confessed killer, be turned over to them.

Wed.

Walters, held on two first- degree murder warrants, said he shot a mother and daughter August 15 because they cast spells on his family, causing his child to commit suicide and his wife to be injured.

8-23-50

The terror-stricken prisoner was rushed to Morristown, Tenn., for safekeeping.

Blair said an estimated 15 to 20 shots were fired during the fracas. No arrests had been made in Hawkins county.

Jailer Walter Brown said when Blair ordered the mob to leave, one of the gang shot through the jail door. The crowd then drew back and began the battle.

None of the jail's defenders were injured.

The jailer said two city policemen, one state trooper and three county deputies joined Blair in "slinging lead" to hold the prison. He said the officers' fire was "answered" immediately.

Brown said the sheriff received reports yesterday afternoon that men were "talking up" a riot at the courthouse. He said the sheriff believed he knew who the ringleaders of the mob were.

Brown said the attackers dispersed when several cars of Tennessee highway patrolmen arrived at the jail as reinforcements.

Walters walked into a country store in Carter's valley and killed Mrs. Alberta Gibbons, 21, and her mother, Mrs. Ilda Woods, 44, because he said they had cast spells on him and his family. He said his child died and his wife injured herself in a fall because he was "bewitched." The two dead women were first cousins of the sheriff.

27g 1950 Tennessee 8125 X

'Bewitched' Killer Saved From Mob

ROGERSVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 23 UP — A sheriff and a small force of officers successfully defended his jail Wednesday against a gang of 300 armed men bent on removing a "bewitched" killer of two women.

Although only about 20 shots were fired, the assault on the little Hawkins County jail in the hills of northeast Tennessee lasted more than hour.

Constitution

The howling mob dispersed when reinforcements of State Troopers arrived.

Sheriff Bradley Blair who commanded the six deputies, city policemen and State Troopers inside the jail said discovery of two separate blood spots on the ground indicated at least two of the attackers were wounded.

[illegible]

The gang began assembling at the two-story brick jail late Tuesday afternoon. It grew in size and temper and about midnight demanded that the sheriff hand over Carl Waters, 40-year-old confessed killer of two women he had accused of casting a spell on his family. The victims were cousins of the sheriff.

8-24-50

[illegible]

Blair refused and ordered the mob to go home. The answer was a shot through the jail door. The battle was on.

For awhile the assault resembled an Indian attack on a fort of the Old West, with the yelping mob circling the jail, firing spasmodically as they moved.

Walters hovered in terror in his jail cell during the battle; then was rushed to Morristown, Tenn., after daylight for safekeeping.

Walters was being held on two first-degree murder warrants after confessing he killed Mrs. Alberta Gibbons, 21, and her mother, Mrs. Alda Woods, 44, on Aug. 15. He said they cast spells on him and his family resulting in the death of his child and an injury to his wife.

27h 1950 Michigan

8126

Seek Identity Of Girl Found Dead On Beach

MUSKEGON, Mich. — The body of a 16-year-old girl, apparently the victim of a sex maniac, was found on a lonely stretch of Lake Michigan beach here last week.

The girl, as yet unidentified, died of suffocation and internal hemorrhages caused by five broken ribs, a post mortem disclosed. The autopsy revealed that she had been raped.

Coroner John A. DeHorn reported that the girl had been criminally assaulted and suffocated some time within the last two months.

Shoes May Be Clue

Sheriff Axel M. Pederson stated that dozens of tips had been investigated but that none has shed light on the girl's identity.

Authorities expressed a hope that the murdered girl's identity can be determined through her shoes. Markings on the shoes are expected to lead officers to the store where they were purchased. A check by the manufacturer was started immediately.

Fingerprints of the girl may be taken. But authorities said that there is little hope they would aid in establishing identity because it is considered improbable, because of her age, that she had been fingerprinted.

Area Roped Off

The area where the body was found was roped off last week and a search is being made for any clothing which may be buried there.

Clothing which was found on the body of the murdered girl was taken to the state police laboratories at Lansing, Mich.

Sheriffs and deputies have combed the area where the body was found, but have uncovered no clues. They have asked anyone who found any clothing in the area to notify the sheriff's office immediately. The officers say that they are unable to conduct a search for the slayer until the identity of the girl has been established.

Body Frozen

The sheriff said he believes the girl was not killed on the beach, but was brought there and buried in about five feet of sand. Northwest winds in mid-January uncovered the body. It was sighted last week by the state park caretaker. The body was still partially covered and deputies used pick axes to free it from the frozen sand.

Neither state police nor Muskegon county authorities have reports of missing persons fitting the description of the victim.

2 7 50

Mich.

2 18 50

8127

Mother Raped; Child, 4, Slain In Her Arms

Constitution

Thurs.

10-19-50

CALERA, Ala., Oct. 18—(AP)—A 37-year-old white farm woman was raped Wednesday by a Negro gunman who shot her small son to death as she held him in her arms.

Atlanta Ga.

The mother of five also was shot and beaten on the head with a rock. She was left for dead in dense woods about one-fourth of a mile from her isolated home.

Officers said the woman, weak from injuries, left the body of her son, four, and crawled almost two miles to a country store for help.

A physician's assistant who gave her first aid said she was "brutally attacked."

A tremendous manhunt led by heavily armed law enforcement officers was in progress tonight. Bloodhounds were rushed here from Kilby State Prison at Montgomery and taken into the woods.

Negro Rapes, Shoots Woman, Kills Child

Advertiser

Calera Area Scene Of Intensive Hunt For Fugitive

CALERA, ALA., Oct. 18—(AP)—A 37-year-old white farm woman was raped Wednesday by a Negro gunman who shot her small son to death as she held him in her arms.

Mrs. Kathleen Holley, mother of five, also was shot and beaten on the head with a rock. She was left for dead in dense woods about one-fourth of a mile from her isolated home.

Officers said Mrs. Holley, weak from loss of blood, left the body of her son, Dale, 4, and crawled almost two miles to a country store for help.

Thurs.

10-19-50

A physician's assistant who gave her first aid said she was "brutally attacked."

Bloodhounds Rushed

A tremendous manhunt led by heavily armed law enforcement officers was in progress Wednesday night. Bloodhounds were rushed here from Kilby State Prison at Montgomery and taken into the woods.

Montgomery.

Mrs. Holley was taken to a Birmingham hospital, where her condition was described as serious.

Ala.

Her husband is Arthur Holley, 40-year-old welder. They have four other children ranging in age from 8 to 14. The Holleys had moved into the little log house little over a week ago. It is almost a half mile off the highway.

Mrs. W. F. Holcombe, a doctor's assistant, who gave her first aid, said:

"She kept saying 'go get my baby.' She said it over and over."

This was the account as pieced together by officers:

Holley left for his work at a lime plant at nearby Saginaw Wednesday morning. The older children left for school, leaving Mrs. Holley and Dale alone in the house.

Noticed Negro

Mrs. Holley noticed a Negro man walk past her home. Frightened she picked up Dale and started into the house. Later she saw the man walking with a Negro woman. This was shortly after 8 a.m.

She went into the yard at the read of the cabin and began washing clothes. Sometime later, the Negro sneaked up in back of her. He was holding a pistol.

He forced her into the house at gunpoint and raped her in a bedroom. He demanded money but she said she had none. Then he made her pull drawers out of a dresser and chest and ransacked the house.

About 11 a.m. the Negro forced her to walk into the woods, telling her he was going to kill her. She clutched Dale in her arms as she walked.

A quarter of a mile from the house, the Negro told her to put the child down. She refused.

At point blank range, he fired six shots. Two of the bullets struck Dale in the head. Mrs Holley was struck in the neck arm and hand. She ~~fell seriously~~ wounded.

Advertiser

The man then picked up a rock and pounded the back of her head. He reloaded his gun and walked off. Once he returned and Mrs. Holley lay as though dead. Finally he left.

Mrs. Holley crawled and staggered the nearly two miles to the country store. She reached the store about 2 p.m.

Dale's body was found an hour later. He apparently had died quickly.

10-19-50

Mrs. Holley told Mrs. Holcombe, who gave her first aid, that the Negro appeared to be about 28, was light colored and had a gold tooth. She said Mrs Holley lost her shoes in the woods and was wearing only a blouse, skirt and sweater.

Sheriff A. E. Norwood said, "we've got some hot clues and a good description of the man."

Negro Students Give Rape Victim Dozen Red Roses

Post Herald

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 25—(AP)—Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37-year-old farm woman who was raped and her 4-year-old son shot to death last week, Wednesday received a dozen red roses.

Thurs.

They were sent to her by pupils and teachers of the Calera Negro Junior High School. An accompanying card said:

"We are in deepest sympathy with you, and wish you a speedy recovery and an early return to your loved ones."

Birmingham Ala.

Mrs. Holley was raped and shot Oct. 18 at her home in an isolated area near Calera. Her attacker shot to death her son, Dale, as she held him in her arms.

27h (1)

A huge posse captured Cooper Drake, 28-year-old Negro, the following day. The Negro was wounded in the stomach and legs and brought to the Jefferson-Hillman Hospital here, where Mrs. Holley also is a patient.

She identified Drake from a photograph as her attacker.

Criminal Attack Suspect

Vet Riddled By Ala. Mob

27h

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—His body riddled with twelve bullets, Cooper Drake, 28-year-old war veteran and parolee, suspected in the criminal rape of a white woman and the fatal shooting of her four-year-old son, lay at the point of death in the Jefferson-Hillman Hospital here Friday.

Drake was placed under an oxygen tent after doctors worked more than seven hours treating bullet wounds in his legs, stomach and back. One of his alleged victims was in the same hospital for treatment but in a different wing.

Courier

He was chased by a posse of about one thousand.

SON SHOT FOUR TIMES

Drake is accused of the assault-shooting of Mrs. Kathleen Holley, 37, twice, and four-times shooting her 4-year-old boy, Dale, near Calera Wednesday, Oct 18.

Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore was the first law enforcement officer to reach the scene of the shooting and capture of the suspect. A gun believed to be the death weapon and seventeen bullets were said by officers to have been found in a corn crib near the tragedy.

Oct. 28 '50

Officers theorized that the weapons were the property of Drake, ordered an investigation of them.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Drake had been released three months ago from the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta. He was serving a term with an assault with intent to rape conviction. He denied the charges in connection with the Calera victim and her son.

Frank Jones and Willie Smith were arrested on a train in Anniston, but released as suspects after the surviving victim said that they did not meet the description of the suspect. Calhoun County Sheriff A. A. Pate, however, said that he would press vagrancy charges against the two men.

Housewife's Sketch Leads To Attacker

Constitution

27h (1) Ala

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 16—(AP)—A housewife who was dragged from her home and raped, drew a sketch of her attacker which led to his arrest and confession, police said Monday.

Jan 17 '50

Suburban Fairfield Police Chief Clyde V. Sellers said Eddie Thomas, 25-year-old Birmingham Negro, admitted the attack and was charged with rape.

Atlanta Ga.

The police chief said the woman was shown several hundred pictures of possible suspects and selected several resembling her attacker.

When her husband mentioned his wife was "quite good at sketching," she was asked to draw a picture of the attacker. Sellers said she sketched a likeness which aided in the arrest of Thomas.

The woman told police she had just put her two children to bed when she heard a knock at her back door. She said when she opened the door a Negro man beat her over the head, dragged her to a weed patch and raped her. She is under treatment at a hospital.

8128

State Supreme Court Hears Conflicting Views Of Rape Trial

Advertiser

Feb 20

27h(1)

Montgomery, Ala.

The State Supreme Court which rarely takes direct testimony, heard witnesses give conflicting versious Friday of the trial of a Negro convicted of raping a white woman and sentenced to death.

Testimony came on a petition aimed at reopening the case against 29-year-old Jim Arrington in the trial court. Arrington's conviction in Crenshaw County in March, 1949, has already been upheld by both the Alabama and the U. S. Supreme Courts.

The defendant himself, brought into the courtroom from his Kilby Prison death cell, was one of those who took the stand Friday. He testified he told his lawyer, J. O. Sentell, Jr., that he had witnesses to prove his innocence but that the attorney entered a plea of guilty at his arraignment.

Arrington said he objected and that the trial judge changed the plea to innocent.

The Negro didn't say it on the stand, but in an affidavit filed with the Supreme Court he quoted Sentell as remarking in the presence of the trial jury that he wasn't going to do anything for his client.

Denies Statements

Sentell denied both statements and the State produced affidavits to back up his story. The attorney said, in fact, that Arrington entered the plea of guilty against his advice.

Another attorney who represented Arrington after his conviction told the Supreme Court he had subpoenaed witnesses for the Negro after filing a motion for a new trial, but that as far as he knew the subpoenas weren't served.

No defense witnesses were used during the trial itself.

A newspaperman who covered the trial, Rex Thomas of the Associated Press in Montgomery, told how some 30 state highway patrolmen as well as local officers guarded the Luverne courtroom during the trial to prevent trouble.

Drew Guns

Thomas testified that the crowd of some 500 grew so restless while the jury was deliberating the verdict that the patrolmen drew their guns to keep order. When the death verdict was announced, the newsman said, the crowd shouted and cheered its approval.

Asst. State Atty. Gen. Bernard Sykes objected to Thomas's testimony on the grounds that the petition before the court made no mention of the atmosphere of the trial.

Defense Attorney F. H. Williams of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People won permission to introduce it, however, pending a decision by the court on whether he could amend his petition.

Later the court granted permission to include the question of trial conditions and gave the state a chance to offer rebuttal evidence.

27h(1) 1950 California

8129

Woman's ex-lover jailed for rape

Privileges freely permitted six weeks ago were taken by brute force last Saturday by eastside man Herbert A. Rogers, police reported this week, and as a result, Rogers was jailed on suspicion of rape.

Dat. 5-[illegible]-50

Bringing the charge was Rogers' erstwhile girlfriend with whom he lived six weeks ago, Mrs. Murcal Perkins, 27-year-old maid of 1815 E. 50th st.

Los Angeles.

Mrs. Perkins told police that Rogers came to her home and demanded admittance last Saturday as she was entertaining guests, Miss June Craven and George Wade, the latter of 1262 E. 56th st. Mrs. Perkins said she refused to let Rogers in.

Cal. Eag.

27h(1)

Accompanied by her guest, she tried to leave the house, Mrs. Perkins claimed, but was caught outside by Rogers and beaten.

Cal. Eag.

Then he forced her back into the house where he raped her, forcing her to lie by his side in bed for an hour afterwards. Her friends left, they told police, because they were afraid of Rogers who assertedly had cut Mrs. Perkins six months before.

Police arrested Rogers in a cafe at 4343 Long Beach blvd.

Child left with man who attempted to rape her

A 9-year-old child, whose mother and father left her with a man who tried to rape her, was being held in juvenile hall this week, pending return of her father from a fishing trip and settlement by the court upon safe custody for her.

Dat. 8-19-50

Victim of a brutal attempted rape was Mary Frances Phillips, whose threats and pleading with Ennis Johnson, 35-year-old laborer of 1551 E. 41st st., finally caused him to release her, police said.

Los Angeles

Police said they were called to the 41st street house early last Saturday morning on an anonymous tip that a "child was being molested by a man." They said neither the neighbor to the right or left of the Johnson residence would admit making the call.

Cal. Eag.

27h(1)

Johnson, they said, broke down and admitted to them that he had molested Mary Frances, with whom he had been "playing," he said, a long time.

Describing the act in brutal terms, he said he took advantage of the absence of the little girl's father, Zephaniah Phillips, and his own wife being out in company of the girl's mother to corner and abused her.

He described to police, they said, how he pulled her out of bed and threw her on the sofa. There he fondled her, tore off her nightclothes and exposed himself, police said he admitted.

The child screamed and pleaded and threatened to tell her father whereupon he let her up, Johnson said, and she ran into the bathroom locked the door, dressed, and escaped out a side door.

The little girl said that her brutal attacker slapped her four times and cursed her viciously.

Police said the child's mother Earskin Phillips, 2009½ W. Jefferson, was separated from her father and did not have legal custody of her.

27h(1) 1950

D.C.

8130

Quiz of Four in Rape Attempt May Lead to Shooting Solution

Police last night were questioning four men in connection with the robbery and attempted rape early yesterday of Miss Pauline Hardy, 44, at her restaurant, 632 3d st. sw.

Washington

Detectives hoped this new case might lead to the two gunmen who kidnaped a cab driver, pulled an $11 holdup, then shot the hacker and threw him from the cab the night of March 27.

Only three men were involved in the robbery and attempted attack of Miss Hardy, who lives at 3223 11th st. nw. When they sped away in their car, a detective cruiser pursued them.

27h(1)

Marked by Gunfire

The chase was marked by an exchange of gunfire betwen the three men and Detective Norman Gray and John W. Hayes of the safe squad who were in the cruiser.

Near 1st and K sts. se., the men slowed their car, leaped out and escaped. The car came to rest against a tree. Gray and Hayes found three of their shots had lodged in the car.

hTe car had not been reported stolen. Its owner told police it had been taken by friends. As a result of this lead, detectives brought in four men for questioning.

Fought Off Attackers

Miss Hardy told police the three Negroes had entered the restaurant and after she served them water complained it wasn't cold enough. When she returned to the kitchen, she said, one of the three seized her, took $40 from her apron pocket, ~~then dragged her to a back yard shed and tried to rape~~ her. She fought off his attempts, she said, and he fled.

The case revived the 8-day-old shooting of Leslie Smith, 31, of 128 F st. nw., who was shot in the back by two gunmen who had commandeered his cab and used it in a holdup. Smith is recovering in Casualty Hospital.

His cab was later found abandoned in front of the restaurant where last night's crime took place. Police said the caliber of the bullets used on Smith and those fired by the escaping men last night were the same.

Georgia Fugitive Held In Attack on Woman At McLean Gardens

11-29-50

A fugitive from a Georgia chain gang was arraigned before United States Commissioner Cyril Lawrence today on charges of unnatural sex practices, robbing and attempt to rape a 42-year-old Navy Department employe in her apartment at McLean Gardens yesterday afternoon.

Willie Jackson.

The accused man, David Scripp, alias Willie Jackson, colored, 50, was arrested at his home in the 1500 block of Swann Street N.W. less than an hour after the attack. He left his hat and coat behind ~~in the victim's~~ apartment.

Police said Scripp, whose record shows a dozen arrests for burglary in Georgia, was employed as a handyman around the McLean Gardens apartments.

His victim, a single woman who has worked for the Navy Department since 1945, stayed home yesterday because she was ill. About 1 p.m., she told police, Scripp knocked on her door and asked to use the telephone.

$20 Taken From Purse.

As the woman walked across her one-room efficiency apartment to pick up the telephone and find out if the man Scripp said he wanted to contact actually lived in the McLean Gardens development she was struck from behind.

27h(1) 10.c

In the struggle with the man much of her clothing was torn off and blood was splattered over the apartment walls. Her screams were heard by William F. Lee, a retired Massachusetts policeman, who lives in the apartment above.

The man fled before Mr. Lee reached the woman's apartment. As he fled he took $20 from the woman's purse. The woman was barely conscious when Mr. Lee reached her apartment. Blood was streaming from facial wounds and from a gash in her scalp. She was treated at Gallinger Hospital and later returned home.

Escaped Last September.

Police revealed they had arrested Scripp as a chain gang fugitive on October 11, but were forced to release him when Georgia authorities failed to appear to press extradition proceedings.

Scripp was sentenced to a five to 10 year term on the Georgia chain gang in January, 1948. He escaped within a few months. Washington police arrested him in July, 1948, when they caught him prowling on a fire escape in the 1100 block of Ninth street N.W. He was returned to Georgia. He escaped from the chain gang again last September.

27h(1) 1950 Florida

8131

Negro Trustee Flees Jail, Commits Rape

Daily News

PALATKA, Fla. —(P)— Putnam county authorities said today that a Negro trustee at the prison farm here escaped, attacked a white girl and was captured when he returned to the prison.

The sheriff's office reported that the prisoner, James McKinney, was transferred to the state prison at Raiford, Fla., after he admitted attacking the girl and stealing about $11 in cash from her home in east Palatka late Saturday.

Bloodhounds were put on the Negro's trail, but he was not captured until a guard and another trustee saw him climbing a fence to get back into the prison late yesterday.

McKinney was reported to be serving a term for criminal assault.

Rape Suspect Nabbed Here

Atlanta, Ga.

Daily World

An Atlanta man, identified by police as Frank Griffin, Tuesday had been detained at police headquarters for questioning in connection with rape charges brought against him by a 26-year-old woman, police reported.

Wed. 1-18-50

Griffin, whose address was listed as 211 Hilliard Street, was booked on a charge of suspicion of rape in connection with the complaint.

27h(1)

Police said the woman who resides at a Highland Avenue, N. E., address reported the suspect accosted her on Auburn Avenue before the alleged statutory attack.

Ga.

"He drove me in his car behind a building on Auburn Avenue and overpowered me," the woman complained. She said the criminal assault occurred on Auburn between Piedmont and Butler.

Suspect Free Of Rape Charge

Atlanta, Ga.

Daily World

The testimony of a 26-year-old Highland avenue woman in the City Police Court yesterday freed Frank Griffin, of 211 Hilliard St., who had been questioned by police on a charge of suspicion of rape.

27h(1)

The woman who told police that she had been raped in a car behind a building on Auburn avenue, denied that Griffin was the person who allegedly raped her.

1950

Griffin's name was cleared in connection with the statutory allegation after police had listed him as a suspect.

Youth, 15, Held As Attack Suspect

Juvenile authorities yesterday held a 15-year-old youth in custody for questioning in connection with an alleged rape attack upon a 14-year-old.

27h(1)

At the juvenile detention home, Sergeant Thomas said the youth boy was arrested following a complaint in which the young girl alleged he forced her into the rear of McDaniel Street, S. W., theater building and assaulted her.

Ga.

A Grady physician examination-report showed that the victim suffered lacerations and bruises about the body. She said the rape suspect forced her into building as she was walking to her Whitehall Terrace residence.

Man Held on Rape Charge

Constitution

Tues. 10-31-50

CHICKAMAUGA, Oct. 30—(AP). A young Negro was held at an undisclosed jail for "safe-keeping" after a white mother of six children told police she was dragged from her home and raped Sunday night.

27h(1)

Atlanta, Ga.

Chickamauga Chief of Police George Arnold said James Avery, about 20, was charged with rape and hurried to a jail outside Walker County "just to be safe."

Ga.

The woman charged that Avery came to her home and persuaded her oldest son, 14, to go to the Negro's house, about a half-mile distant, at about 8 p. m.

10-31-50

She added the Negro battered down the door and dragged her into the yard after the boy left. She was treated at a Chattanooga hospital after the attack.

The woman said she has been separated from her husband for about seven months.

Arnold said the Negro was intoxicated when arrested shortly after the assault.

Former Bellhop Admits Robbery Of Aged Woman

Daily World

27h(1)

WAYCROSS, Ga—(SNS)—A 29-year old former hotel bellhop has allegedly confessed to the robbery and criminal assault of a 62 year old Jeff Davis white woman in May, 1949, and admitted a second attempt to rob the same woman last week.

Ga.

Fri. 9-15-50

Deprea S. Rogers, a pulpwood worker, allegedly told police officials that he committed the crime for which a 24 year old white man, Raymond Merritt, was indicted and tried in Jeff Davis Superior court last September.

Atlanta, Ga.

According to Sheriff [illegible] L. Hatton, the widow identified Merritt, one of her neighbors, as the man who robbed and assaulted her on May 6, 1949. Hatton said the woman opined that her attacker was a white man who had blackened his face to disguise himself as a Negro.

She told police officials that she recognized the voice of the man as that of Merritt. Subsequently Merritt was acquitted of a robbery and rape charge because of a lack of evidence.

Last Tuesday, Sept. 5, a second attempt was made to rob the woman who lives alone. Hatton said that Rogers was taken into custody after officers found a hat bearing his name at the scene of the crime.

When apprehended at his home near Blackshear, Roger's allegedly confessed to both crimes. He was quoted as saying that he waited in the garden near the woman's house and grabbed her as she passed by. When she screamed, friends rushed to the scene, and Rogers fled, police said.

In the signed confession, Rogers asserted that he went to the widow's home on the night of May 6, 1949. He said that he climbed in a window and grabbed the woman when she came out of the kitchen.

Rogers told officers that he choked the woman when she screamed and threatened her with a knife. He said he then tore her clothes and took $75 he found concealed on her person.

The former bellhop told police officers that he was intimate with the woman and left after promising he would pay her back the money "if she would not tell on me."

Mother of Six Raped; Negro Sped from County

10-30-50

Chickamauga, Ga., Oct. 30 (AP)—A Negro was arrested and hurried from the county last night after a white mother of six children told police she was dragged from her home and raped. The 35 year old woman said the man, identified as James Avery, about 20, attacked her after persuading her oldest son, 14, to leave the house. Avery then broke down the door and dragged her into the yard, she said.

27h(1)

Ga.

He was charged with rape.

Woman Assaulted, Negro Arrested

Post Herald

Tues. 10-31-50

Mother Of Six Dragged From Home

Birmingham

CHICKAMAUGA, Ga. Oct. 30 (AP)—A young Negro was held in an undisclosed jail for "safe-keeping" after a white mother of six children told police she was dragged from her home and raped last night.

27h(1)

Chickamauga Chief of Police George Arnold said James Avery, about 20, was charged with rape and hurried to a jail outside Walker County "just to be safe."

Ga.

Mrs. Mary Hollingsworth, 35, charged that Avery came to her home and persuaded her oldest son, 14, to go to the Negro's house, about a half-mile distant.

She added the Negro battered down the door and dragged her into the yard after the boy left. She was treated at a Chattanooga hospital after the attack.

The woman said she has been separated from her husband for about seven months.

Arnold said the Negro was intoxicated when arrested shortly after the assault.

Assault Suspect Indicted in Walker

Constitution

LAFAYETTE, Nov. 9—(AP)—A 20-year-old ex-convict, James Avery, was indicted on a charge of criminal assault here at a special session of the Walker County Grand Jury.

27h(1)

Ga.

Fri. 11-10-50

Judge H. E. Nichols ordered a special session of the grand jury to investigate the criminal assault charge made against the Negro ex-convict by a 35-year-old housewife.

Atlanta, Ga.

POLICE BEAT

27h(1)

Ga.

Daily World

Girl, 4, Reports Rape

Veteran police officer Ernest Lyons and rookie patrolman Alan Odom, patrolling in radio car 21, yesterday possibly cleared up a rape report with the arrest of two 18-year-old youths suspected of criminally assaulting a 4-year-old child.

Lyons and Odom said they picked up two suspects, listed as Willie Clyde Trailor, of 143 Vine Street, N. W. and James Beasley, of 211 Elm Street, N. W., on a complaint made by the victim's mother.

According to the woman's complaint, the suspects allegedly abducted her 4-year-old daughter and took her into a field near 113 Walnut Street, N. W. and raped her Sunday.

Wed. 8-23-50

At Grady hospital the small child was treated for multiple lacerations of her genital organs.

Atlanta, Ga.

Detectives Jimmy Helms and W. M. Holland, assigned to the case, promised a complete investigation of the alleged crime.

Georgia Chain Gang Fugitive Held in $60,000 in Rape Try

Post 11-30-50

U. S. Commissioner Cyril Lawrence yesterday held a 50-year-old fugitive from a Georgia chain gang in $60,000 bond when he was arraigned on charges of robbing, attempting to rape and committing sodomy on a 42-year-old woman at McLean Gardens.

The suspect, listed as David Scrivens, alias Davi[illegible] Scripp and Willie Reynolds, was arrested at his home, 1518 Swann st. nw., within an hour and a half of the crime Tuesday afternoon.

Lawrence fixed bond and continued a preliminary hearing until December 13 after Assistant U. S. Attorney Martin J. McNamara described the case as "one of the most vicious crimes I've ever heard of."

Despite Lawrence's advice to Scrivens that he "not say anything," the suspect agreed with McNamara's contention that he fled a Georgia chain gang in September and "committed this crime in order not to go back to Georgia."

"That's right," Scrivens told the commissioner. "I did it because I didn't want to go back to that Georgia chain gang. I don't care what you do to me; I don't care if you kill me. I don't wan to go back there."

McNamara asked that bond be set at $75,000, but Lawrence thought that "a little bit too high" and set it at $20,000 on each of the three charges.

Police reported yesterday that Scrivens signed a confession at Police Headquarters after his capture Tuesday. He was confronted at the Women's Bureau by the victim, a Navy Department employe who had been released from Gallinger Hospital for transfer to a private hospital for rest and observation. She identified Scrivens as her assailant and heard him repeat his confession, police said.

27h(1) 1950 Illinois

8133

Teenager, 14 Prisoner Seven Hours

27h(1)

A 14-year-old girl who admitted intimacies with a youth 18, was attacked twice Wednesday, ~~by a man who~~ kidnapped [illegible] her sweetheart in a hotel.

The young victim said Isaac Rolland, 28, of 4511 Michigan ave., assaulted her once in a car behind a church, and again in his mother's home.

He manhandled her and repeatedly threatened to kill her before he got her to his room, the girl said, and later cut her on the neck. She escaped when the man fell asleep after nearly seven hours. He was [illegible] asleep when police came to arrest him.

The girl, a freshman at Lucy Flowers Girls' High School, was in the hotel at 4222 Calumet ave., with her sweetheart, Thomas Parker of 4210 Indiana ave., when she first saw Rolland. They went there after a movie.

Admits Intimacies

The girl said she had been intimate with Parker in hotels "two or three times" since December. In a signed statement, the girl said she and Parker opened the door to their room when Mrs. Dorothy Franklin, the clerk, knocked, screaming that there was a "crazy man" in the lobby.

Parker opened the door and they saw Rolland raging and demanding money.

He forced them into a washroom where he robbed Parker. Ordering the youth to stay there for 15 minutes, he forced the girl to leave with him.

RAPE SUSPECT HELD TO JURY ON TWO CHARGES

Jordan Beck, 24, Negro, of 64 W. Illinois st., yesterday was held to the grand jury in bonds of $20,000 by Judge Jay A. Schiller in Felony court on charges of robbery and rape.

Beck was arrested July 1 at Lake and Wells sts. when he kept an appointment with a 31 year old woman operator of a gift shop on Chicago av., whom he robbed of $30 and raped June 27 in her shop.

The victim told police the man later telephoned and said he was sorry he robbed her and wanted ~~to return the money~~. She made an appointment with him and police arrested him when he appeared.

GIRL, 17, RAPED, ESCORT ROBBED IN CITY PARK

A 17 year old beauty operator was raped at gunpoint early yesterday by a Negro in Douglas Park, near Ogden and California avs. Her escort, Patrick Santaniello, 19, of 2900 Fillmore st., a factory worker, was robbed of $14.

The two were seated on a bench near the park boathouse when the rapist, about 30 and 5 feet 11 inches tall, walked past. Ten minutes later he returned, drew a revolver, and ordered the couple into bushes 50 feet away under threat of killing them.

The rapist produced twine and tied Santaniello's hands behind his back. After partly disrobing and attacking the girl, the Negro bound her hands with her stockings and fled. She freed herself and released Santaniello.

Police Sgt. Frank Callahan said the rapist's description resembled that of a prowler who attempted to rape a Mount Sinai hospital nurse in Douglas Park three months ago.

27h(1)

27h(1) 1950 Illinois

8134

SEARCH FOR MAN WHO ATTEMPTED TO RAPE GIRL, 10

27h(1)
Tribune
[illegible]
1-21-50
[illegible]

A Negro about 45, was being sought by west side police yesterday after an attempt to rape a 10 year old girl Sunday night. He had dragged the girl, Anna Patterson, 1212 Roosevelt rd., into the passageway of her home. Her screams attracted Lawrence Sampson, 50, of 12[illegible] Roosevelt rd., a frate router for the Railway Express agency. Sampson, a pipe smoker, pointed his pipe at the Negro as if he were holding a revolver and shouted, "stop or I'll shoot." The assailant fled.

'Teen Age Girls Tell Of Massages

Defender
Dat. 1-14-50

Dr. Harold S. Partee, 62, a Southside physician and surgeon, was arrested Thurs. on sex charges involving two tennage girls, but denied the charges. Juvenile authorities reported the girls, one 11 years old and the other 17, are from respectable families. Dectectives Ellsworth Reed and John Dunn said they seized Dr. Partee in his home-office at 6421 Maryland Ave., after the llyear old girl told with tears 'the strange practice' of the physician.

"We saw the girl standing on a corner crying as we passed in a squad car," Reed related. "She said she had left the office of Dr. Partee.

Reed said the squad proceeded to the office of the doctor with the girl.

Leaving her in the car, the officers went in to question Dr. Partee.

"We noticed that the coat of a young girl was on a couch", said Reed. 'The doctor told us it belonged to a woman in the building."

Suspicious, the policemen looked into another room and saw a 17 year old girl in bed without any clothing, Reed related."

At Woodlawn police station, the girls told their "experiences" with the doctor to policewomen Mary Hagen and Rita Meany.

The 17 year old girl related she was hired by Dr. Partee to answer telephone calls at $1.00 a day. She had been working for him four days, and on each day he would give her "a strange" examination.

Policewoman Hagen said the 'examination" consisted of "certain massages about certain parts of the body."

The younger girl said she worked in the same capacity and Dr. Partee gave her "the massages."

Detective Reed said Dr. Partee admitted he gave the girls the "massages," but he was treating them for colds.

According to police, Dr. Partee has a criminal record dating back to 1937, when he was convicted on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. In 1940, he was convicted on a charge of [redacted]

[redacted]

that Dr. Partee's license to practice medicine was restored Dec. 23, 1948.

He is being held on two charges of contributing to the delinquency of minors and two charges of indecent liberties.

27h(1) 1950 Iowa

8135

Defendant Breaks Down at Hearing in Police Court; Says 'Forget Whole Thing'

Bystander Iowa 3-16-50
Des Moines Iowa

27h (1) Iowa

By W. T. McKEE

Davenport, Ia.—Two Missouri men were bound over to Scott county district court under $2,500 bond each March 8, at the conclusion of a preliminary hearing of charges of a 25-year-old white woman that they had raped her. 3-16-50

The hearing was held in the police court of John J. McSwiggin. At the start of the hearing, Miss Yvonne Badders, a red haired, former magazine saleswoman claiming Union City, Indiana, her home, broke down in tears under the cross examination of Attorney Sam Friendman, Hannibal, Mo., representing the defendants.

She buried her head in her arms and pleaded to drop the whole case, but the court ordered testimony to proceed. The line of questioning which caused the woman to become disturbed concerned the divorce given her husband and their child under his custody, also the name of the man who had taken her out on the highway and made improper advances toward her causing her to leave his car and flag down the car containing four Negroes.

Breaks Down

Later in the proceedings she broke down again and shouted, "I've had all I can take. Forget about the whole thing. Please let me drop the case." Judge McSwiggin called a recess and it was then that the Davenport policemen met and decided that Assistant Scott county attorney Rehling might loose the case and they chipped in together and engaged Attorney Don Petrucelli for Miss Badders.

Defendants are Franklin Steve Mallory, 29, and his brother, James T. Mallory, 25, both of Hannibal, Mo. Held under $200.00 bond each as material witnesses are Luther M. Jones, 26 and David Campbell, 20, also from Hannibal and passengers in the car, but Miss Badders told policemen that they were not implicated in the alleged attack. The woman was picked up on the highway south of Milan, Ill., and brought through Rock Island and then to the west end of the city limits of Davenport, Iowa, and it was there she charged the pair criminally attacked her. Attorney Friedman explained to newsmen that he was opposing introduction into the hearings of alleged statements by Franklin Mallory, Jones and Campbell, to polcemen because he said he clients told him policemen "hit them" after they were taken into custody. Miss Badders had been in jail as material witness, unable to furnish $1,000 bond which the court had set, however she was released without bond on Mar. 7 and spent the night in the home of a police officer.

8136

Disappearance of Negro Youth Seen As Police Frameup

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The alleged "escape" from Gretna prison by Ocie Jugger, Negro youth framed and condemned on a phony rape charge, is still agitating the community here. The Civil Rights Congress has repeatedly demanded that Sheriff Frank Clancy produce Jugger alive. For there is a growing belief that Jugger's disappearance was arranged, and that he may have met with harm from those who do not wish him to disprove the frameup.

27h(1)

Worker.

Paul Washington, framed along with Jugger, is still in the death-house.

An elderly widow who says she was raped does not identify either Jugger or Washington as her attackers. But an all-white jury has called them guilty, and a white judge, Judge L. Robert Rivarde, has sentenced them to die.

1-15-50

The alleged crime was committed March 15, 1948. The two youths were not tried until Nov. 18, 1948—eight months later. They were not sentenced until Nov. 17, 1949 a year after the trial. Jugger and Washington were defended by a do-nothing court-appointed lawyer, and kept in jail the whole year and eight months.

Beaten over and over, to make them confess, Paul Washington did sign a written confession, which he repudiated during the trial. He said he had signed only to escape more beating. Jugger never signed, and he, too, declared his innocenee at the trial.

The two men testifying for themselves were the only defense witnesses; the court-appointed lawyer called nobody for the defense, although Jugger's wife could have testified that both were at home at the hour the crime took place.

Poverty and Jimcrow conspired to keep the facts from the public, until relatives and neighbors of the men brought up the death sentence at a union meeting. The Local 208, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, of which Ocie Jugger was a former member and to which his father-in-law belongs, asked the Louisiana Civil Rights Congress to save the lives of their union brother, Jugger, and Jugger's friend Washington.

Mrs. W. P. Irwin, the 60 year old widow says she was asleep at 1:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, March 15, 1948, when two Negroes wearing masks entered her darkened bedroom and raped her. She did not recognize them. The rapists also stole money and jewelry, including a watch.

Mrs. Irwin did not cry out or rouse the neighborhood. She just slept the rest of the night, then went and told her brother-in-law, Dr. John Irwin, all about it.

A few days later a Negro named Vincent North tried, according to the police, to pawn the watch at Cohen's Pawn Shop, 507 S. Rampart St., and the police were notified. He told police he got the watch from Ocie Jugger and Paul Washington. "They're out in front of the pawn shop now," he said, "waiting for the money." But they were not in front. The police found the unsuspecting men at work on the truck Jugger drives collecting garbage for the city. They were arrested March 22, 1948, seven days after the alleged rape.

The trial took three days. The prosecution paraded 17 witnesses on the stand. One was the woman, who said she was raped but did not identify Jugger and Washington. One was Dr. John Irwin, who claimed that his sisiter-in-law showed evidence of being "raped." Others were Jefferson parish deputy sheriffs who said Jugger and Washington "confessed" (they denied that they had beaten the two men.)

One of the state's witnesses was Vincent North, who inadvertently let out that he was beaten too, and his testimony is in the record. The state thus admits that one of the men in the case was beaten. (North was held in the same jail as Jugger and Washington).

The local Gretna attorney, Andrew H. Thalheim, who was appointed by the court to defend the two accused Negroes without pay, did not call any defense witnesses. He didnt want to defend them in the first place, he told friends, but the judge "stuck him with it."

SENTENCE SEVEN IN SIMPLE RAPE

Times-Picayune

Husband, 6 Negroes Convicted in Arcadia

Sun. 6-18-50

(The Associated Press)

Arcadia, La., June 17—A white sharecropper and six Negro farm laborers were sentenced by Judge H. W. Ayers here Friday to serve a maximum term of 20 years each in the state penitentiary on charges of "simple rape" of the sharecropper's feebleminded wife.

All seven of the defendants, who were arrested by Bienville parish sheriff Prentiss M. Oakley and his deputy, entered pleas of guilty.

New Orleans La.

The 20-year-old sharecropper's wife has been interdicted by Dr. R. C. Ferguson, Bienville parish coroner, for commitment to the Central Louisiana hospital for the insane at Pineville.

27h(1)

The husband and wife admitted in confessions to Sheriff Oakley and his deputies that they both had solicited the Negroes' patronage of the wife in immoral relations at their residence south of Ringgold.

La.

All of the Negroes confessed they had visited the woman in the kitchen of her two-room home at night—while her husband and three small children were in the bedroom—and had had relations with her on one or more occasions.

The sharecroppers' small residence is located six miles south of Ringgold on the Hall Summit road, near Red River parish line.

The pandering husband, who admitted to Sheriff Oakley that it was he who first began the solicitation of the Negroes' patronage, is Wiley Griffith Jr., 28.

The six Negroes who were sentenced along with the husband are Sonnie, 26, and Tennessee Alums, 36, both of near Castor, and Arzona Rasco, 39; Julius Stafford, 37; Amos King Jr., 28, and L. V. Sims, 24, all of whom resided in the same community where the Griffiths lived.

Times-Picayune

(The charge of simple rape filed against the defendants in the office of district attorney Fred L. Jackson is one which is invoked in cases wherein a man has immoral relations with a woman who, although consenting, is unable to understand the nature of the act because of feeblemindedness or for other reasons.)

Judge Ayers' sentence was the heaviest which could be meted out against the defendants. The statute under which charges were filed provides for a penalty, upon conviction, of not less than one year, nor more than 20 years, at hard labor in the state penitentiary.

Sun. 6-18-50

"In all my 18 years as a peace officer," Sheriff Oakley said, "this is the most pathetic case I've worked on."

When the Griffiths were arrested their three children were delivered to the custody of Griffith's parents, who reside about two miles from the sharecropper's residence.

New Orleans La.

District attorney Jackson has filed an affidavit to the effect that the children are delinquent and are, therefore, entitled to state welfare department assistance.

The Griffiths told Sheriff Oakley they were married in 1944, when Mrs. Griffith was only 14 years old.

Accused in Attack On Girl of Six

27h(1)

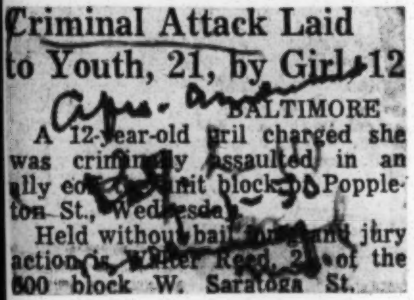
Sat. 10-21-50

NEW ORLEANS—Paul Weaver, 37, was arrested here last Thursday afternoon and charged with criminally attacking a six-year-old girl.

27h(1) 1950

Maryland

8137



Criminal Attack Laid to Youth, 21, by Girl, 12

Afro-Amer

BALTIMORE

A 12-year-old gril charged she was criminally assaulted in an lly court in unit block of Poppleton St., Wednesday.

Held without bail for grand jury action is Walter Reed, 21, of the 600 block W. Saratoga St.

27h(1) 1950 Mississippi 8138

Insane Killer Of Young Divorcee Still At Large In Sunflower River Area

27 h (1)

8-10-50

GREENVILLE — (Special) — A second search in the Sunflower river area near Darlove for the confessed insane Negro slayer of a white Delta matron last fall Thursday had failed to produce the Negro.

The search was begun Wednesday after a Negro woman, Sally Bill, reported seeing the Negro Robert Sanders, an escapee from Whitfield where he had been confined after having been found to be insane, about 2 p. m. Tuesday near the lonely river bank where he confessed he slashed Mrs. Irma Franklin, young white divorcee, to death.

He was headed toward Darlove, according to the woman.

Bloodhounds brought from the state penal farm at Parchman early Wednesday afternoon struck a trail that led into a corn field, Washington County Deputy Sheriff Murray Ethridge said, and followed it for about a mile and a half. For a time, it was believed that the Negro had been trapped.

At the scene Wednesday afternoon were Deputy Ethride, State Highway Patrolman Jerome Costello and a number of citizens of the area.

Sanders has been reported in the area near the scene of the slaying on another occasion about two weeks ago. Later the search shifted to the Hazlehurst area in Copiah County.

He escaped from the state mental hospital after physicians there had pronounced him "hopelessly insane." Police officers said that he was considered "very dangerous."

Mrs. Franklin was found slain on the banks of the Sunflower River several hundred yards from her home. Her head had been severed with the five-inch blade of a pocket knife.

Sander later made a signed confession to Washington County Sheriff Huck Foote.

Rape Suspect Faces Removal Hearing Oct. 6

Removal hearing for Curtis W. Hopkins, Negro wanted here on a charge of rape, will be held in Toledo, Ohio, on October 6.

Hopkins is being held in lieu of $2,500 bond on Federal Bureau of Investigation charges of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

The Negro is charged with criminally assaulting a white woman on McRaven road on August 10, 1949.

Hinds county officers will attend the removal hearing.

Negro, 29, Jailed On Rape Charge

27 h (1) Miss

A 29-year-old Negro man is in city jail charged with raping two Negro girls, sisters aged 6 and 7.

He was identified as James C. Taylor of 1801 Washington street.

Taylor, according to police, rented a room in the house where the two little girls lived.

Detective Captain [illegible] Pierce said the Negro man had confessed to the charges. In his confession he said the girls consented.

Daily News 9-9-50

He was arrested by Officers J. W. Bryant and A. H. Martin and by Detectives Eddie Browne and W. T. Chapman after one of the girls told a doctor of his advances during a physical examination.

Negro Pleads Guilty Here To Molesting White Girl

Daily News 27 h (1) Miss

Richard Greenfield, Negro, pleaded guilty to gratifying lust in connection with the fondling of a seven-year-old white girl in the southern part of the county. The plea was entered in Hinds circuit court Thursday before Judge Arthur Jordan.

Greenfield is charged with "playing with" the girl in the barn on the farm on which he was employed last May.

District Attorney Julian Alexander and County Prosecuting Attorney Hugh Gillespie made no recommendation for sentence.

A prison term of 10 years is possible under the plea.

Greenfield, who pleaded not guilty to the charge in previous arraignment here. He failed to make $3,000 bond fixed at a preliminary hearing a month ago.

The girl charged that Greenfield played with her in the barn, put his hands over various parts of her body and hugged and kissed her. She said that he asked her to come to his room later. She reported the incident to her parents.

She said Greenfield told her to keep a watch-out during the reported incident to see that no one approached the barn.

Greenfield was apprehended the same day by Hinds county officers.

27h(1) 1950 Missouri

8139

8139

ANOTHER RAPE FRAME-UP IN COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, VICTIM GETS SWIFT TRIAL AND CONVICTION

St. Louis American

St. Louis, Mo. 4-13-50

COLUMBIA, Mo.—(Special To St. Louis American.) This town with three institutions of higher learning is still a community besieged by fear, hates and Dixie-cast persecutions.

On Sunday, December 4, two police officers picked up Jake Bradford for "prowling" in a "white" neighborhood. There was no suspicion or charge of any real crime against him at the time, other than the common official hositility to a Negro who ventures outside the ghetto on a day that is not a work day.

From December 4 through December 9 Bradford was held in jail without any charges being preferred against him, although the legal limit in the State for holding a person without charges is 20 hours. Later, during Bradford's trial, City Attorney Bear testified that during this time Bradford was not informed that he had the right to an attorney or that his family or friends could see him, or that he need not answer questions.

Nevertheless, Jake Bradford was continually questioned and threatened during these six days. He was cused at, shoved around and told that there was a mob waiting to get him if he did not confess to the two crimes the police were attempting to pin on him, the rape charge and an attempted rape.

The climax came on the afternoon of December 9. Dr. Harry M. Griffith, city coroner, was called in by police to examine Bradford. Smelling heavily of liquor, the city coroner pointed a gun at the prisoner's head. Outside, men shouted and pushed at the door. A state highway patrolman stood over Bradford, twisting his shoulder deaf to his pleas to get the gun away from the coroner. Jake Bradford signed a "confession."

The next day formal charges were finally filed against him. Bond was set at $10,000 and Jake Bradford remained in jail.

Belief in the innocence of Bradford and of former frame-up victims is shared by many citizens of the city and state, both Negro and white. The truth was evident in the court-room and was reflected in Columbia newspaper accounts of the trial.

Both Negro and white citizens are incensed at the actions of the police department around the Janett Christman slaying that took place in this same area in March of 1950. Although there is not a shred of evidence pointing to a Negro as the assailant, it is reported that over one hundred Negro youths and men have been picked up and held for questioning on this case. Only about half a dozen white men have been questioned, none of them from the so-called "respectable" families.

27h(1)

St. Louis Mo.

American

Thur 4-13-50

27h(1)

Mo

27h(1) 1950 Michigan 8140

Pastor's 'Treatments' Led to Attacks, Girl Charges

Afro-American

27h(1) Mich

DETROIT—The Rev. C. C. Chapman, pastor of Faith Temple Church of God, 1331 East Kirby, was accused of criminal assault Sept. 6 by a 16-year-old girl, at a closed hearing before Recorder's Judge Charles W. Jones. The pastor made no statement.

The girl alleged that the minister had relations with her on several occasions last October while she was in his office for nervous treatments, and informed her that the act of intercourse was part of the treatment.

9-16-50

The girl said she had faith in the minister who told her he was a Divine healer, and kept the affair a secret because he said if she told any one she would lose her mind. Police have $500 allegedly given the girl by the minister's wife.

Retrial Fails to Clear Medic

Afro-American

DETROIT —A jury of 11 women and one man, last Tuesday, found Dr. Henslee Tann of 223 Horton St. guilty the second time of a charge of criminally attacking Miss Francis Lessard, 25, of Windsor, Canada, in his office on Oct. 21, 1948.

10-7-50

The verdict was rendered before Recorder's Court Judge Paul E. Krause in a retrial of Dr. Tann's case ordeerd by the State Supreme Court in February, 1950. The physician had previously been convicted on the charge in June, 1949, and had been sentenced to Jackson Prison for a term of 12 and one half to 25 years.

The new trial had been granted after Edward Bernard, Dr. Tann's attorney, contended that the State during the first trial, had failed to produce an important witness, Miss Jean Carpenter, 25, with whom Dr. Tann lived, at his office residence.

27h(1)

New Witness Small Help

The physician was returned from Jackson Prison to Detroit in April 1950, and has been in Wayne County Jail since then awaiting the retrial, which has been adjourned five times at the request of Mr. Bernard, the defendant's attorney.

The testimony of Miss Carpenter during the retrial failed to impress the jurors. Miss Carpenter, who admitted that she heard noises in the "treatment room" on the night of the alleged crime, said that she also saw Miss Lessard running from the house with her coat over her arm.

She said she had asked Dr. Tann what had happened and the physician had told her: "I went to give her a shot and she became nervous and ran out on me." Bernard, without cross questioning Miss Carpenter, contended that the State had no grounds for convicting the medic.

Sgt. Lawrence Sheehy said that there are two more cases pending against Dr. Tann. One, the charge that he committed an illegal operation, is scheduled for hearing on Oct. 25. The other, a charge of attempting to obstruct justice, is set for Dec. 4.

27h(1) 1950

New York

8141

Charge "Bum" Raped Girl, 5

27h(1)

8-5-50

A 30-year-old Harlem man who police called "a bum who lives by his wits," was accused last Saturday of raping the 5-year-old daughter of his girl friend over two weeks ago.

Detective Francis McGinty of the 28th Squad arrested Fairley Malloy of 147 Lenox Ave. after the mother of the child accused him of the beastly crime. Malloy was held in $5,000 bail following his arraignment in Felony Court.

According to police, Malloy, unemployed, is the boy friend of the young victim's mother. On July 9 the mother went out and left Malloy alone with the 5-year-old girl and a younger sister in their apartment at [illegible] W. [illegible] St. When she returned she found the little girl crying hysterically and the victim of a brutal attack.

The child was taken to Harlem Hospital and remained there for two weeks. It was not until her daughter was released from the hospital that the mother went to police and accused her boy friend of the attack.

REPORTS SECOND RAPE IN LOVERS' LANE SLAYINGS

~~Tribune~~

Hunt Negro Gunman in New York Area

10-5-50

Amsterdam, N. Y., Oct. 4 [Special]—The belated disclosure of a second rape attack by a night marauding gunman in a lovers' lane near here today sent scores of police on a wide hunt for a Schenectady Negro in connection with the rape-slaying of two young sweethearts in the same romantic setting Sunday.

27h(1)

The suspect, described as a dapper dresser, 35 years old, and with a scar on his right cheek, has been missing from his home and job in Schenectady, 17 miles east of here, since shortly after the bodies of the two victims were found Monday afternoon.

N.Y.

They were Jeane Lorraine Stone, 17, of Amsterdam, and William A. Waterman, 18, of nearby Gloversville. Most of the girl's clothing had been torn from her body and she had been raped. Waterman had been shot 11 times with bullets from a .22 caliber rifle and the girl had been shot once in the head.

Reports Other Rape

Schenectady police disclosed that a man in that city reported to them, after the double slaying, that his woman companion was raped three weeks ago by a rifleman in the same lovers' rendezvous of city owned Phillips park, 2 miles east of Amsterdam.

The man said he was sitting in his parked car with a Schenectady girl when a man he believed to be a Negro suddenly appeared beside the car and poked a rifle and flashlight at them. The gunman ordered the woman's escort out of the car and then raped the woman.

When the gunman fled, the Schenectady man watched him get into a car and noted the license number. After learning of Sunday's double slaying, he reported the matter to police and gave them the license number. Names of the Schenectady couple were withheld.

Trace License Number

Police traced the license number to a rent-a-car agency and learned the vehicle had been rented that night to a Schenectady Negro. He is the man they are now hunting.

The suspect worked Monday at his job in a Schenectady junk yard, but failed to appear yesterday. He also has been missing since Monday from his quarters in a Schenectady rooming house and has not appeared at the home of his mother in Albany.

Since the slaying, police have heard reports that several other couples have been molested by a night prowling intruder in heavily wooded Phillips park, which lies along the Mohawk river. In the other cases, of which there have been at least three, there were no reports that girls had been raped.

27h(1) 1950 Oklahoma 8142

NEGRO IDENTIFIED BY LAWTON

LAWTON.—The white woman, wife of a soldier, who spread an alarm last week, alleging she had been gagged and raped by a Negro,, and who later positively identified one of four Negroes arrested following a man-hunt immediately launched by the police in the Negro section, has been arrested for questioning, and the Negro she alleged raped her has been released.

Black Dispatch

First indication that the woman's story was false came when the man she identified as having assaulted her, was taken by officers to the farm where he said when he was arrested that he was picking coton at the time the woman said she was

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37

LAWTON. — A Snyder landowner's memory might mean the difference between freedom and prison for a 37-year old Negro being held in an undisclosed jail in connection with the raping of a Lawton mother Saturday afternoon.

The suspect, who was arrested at 11 a. m. Sunday, was positively identified by the 25-year-old Army wife who was gagged and criminally assaulte in her southside Lawton home.

His arrest lulled an all-out manhunt by city, county and millitary officers begun shortly after the raping occurred at 5:45 p. m. Saturday.

Oct. 12-2-50

Alibis Checked

Investigators have checked the Negro's alibi and so far have found everything correct. However, the investigation is not over, officers said.

D. Moncrief, police investigator, said he would take the suspect to Snyder sometime during the next two days. There, Moncrief said, the Snyder farmer will try to identify him as one of the cotton pickers who worked in his fields until 7 p. m. Saturday.

The Negro has denied any connection with the attack and officers went about checking his alibi piece by piece. Parts of the alibi all have fit together, Monchief said, but final decision rests on the Snyder man's identification.

Oklahoma City

Faints At Station

The attractive mother picked the man from a line-up of six Negroes at the police station. She fainted after pointing him out as her assistant.

Oklahoman

In later questioning by officers, the woman said "When I looked at him he was staring at me the same way he stared when he attacked me. It was just more than I could take."

Good Description

Investigator D. Moncrief and Constable Fred Sullivan said the man was arrested on a basis of the "perfect description" given by the rape victim. "I never heard anyone give a better description," Moncrief said.

She had described her attarcek as a stocky Negro with a mustache and missing front teeth. In the police station the suspect had a pipe clamped between his lips and did not open his mouth before his identification, Moncrief said.

The suspect protested his innocence, and said he was picking cotton around Snyder Saturday evening. He gave officers names of workers he said were with him, declaring they did not return to Lawton until after 8 p. m.

27h(1) 1950 Pennsylvania 8143

Robbed Coed Tipped Police

27h(1)

Identified Suspect In Rogues Gallery

-P-

PHILADELPHIA

The arrest of a suspected sex maniac who preyed on young girls was announced, last week, by Second Division detectives.

Afro-American

The prisoner, identified as Christopher Davis, 23, of 214 N. Darien St., is alleged to have criminally attacked six teen-aged girls during a five-month period.

He is also charged with robbing and attempting to carnally assault a seventh girl, who, according to detectives, gave them the information which led to Davis' arrest last Thursday.

Temple Student Aids Police

She is Bernice Roberts, 18, of 1106-C Myrtle Pl., a Temple University student.

Detectives said Miss Roberts indentified Davis, a small, mustachioed man with a long record for sex offenses, from a police photograph.

Sat. 3-11-50

She repeated the identification after police took Davis into custody. At the same time, the other six girls, ranging in age from 12 to 18, identified him as the man who had attacked them.

Baltimore /

~~Employed Same Pattern~~

Davis, according to Dets. Nathaniel Thompson and Nathaniel Brantley, used the same pattern in each of the attacks, the first of which occurred in October.

He approached the girls on the street, they said, and asked them if the knew where a Yvonne Freeman lived. Before they could answer and walk away, he told them he had a gun and would shoot them if they did not follow his orders.

Davis then, according to the detectives, directed the girls into different apartment houses within 10 blocks of the Darien St. address.

The attacks took place in bathrooms, they said.

Weapon Not Witnessed

Although Davis reportedly told all the girls he had a gun, none of them said they saw him with one.

The robbery and attempted assault on Miss Roberts took place on Feb. 18. She told detectives Davis accosted her at 10th and Melon Sts., and directed her in a house on Marshall St., near Spring Garden.

After she had fought off his advances, Miss Roberts said, the man took her watch and fled. She immediately reported the incident to police.

Many Arrests, Aliases

Davis, who also gave a Camden, N.J., address, was said by the detectives to have been arrested for sex offenses seven times. The first pinch was in 1941.

The detectives also described the accused as a man of many aliases. They said he was also known as Thomas Davis, Edward Campbell, Edward Davis and James Benson.

Given a hearing before Magistrate Jules Forstein at the 12th and Pine Sts. station on Sunday, Davis was held without bail for grand jury action. He was charged with rape, robbery and assault and battery, with the intent to ravish.

27h(1) 1950 South Carolina

8144

'Freedom of Press'

Editor Indicted; Politics Hinted

Courier

27h(1) Sat. 1-14-50 Pittsburgh, Pa.

(Special to The Courier)

GREENWOOD, S. C.—In the first case of its type to arise in this state, two newsmen, one Negro and the other white, have been indicted here on allegations of criminal libel arising from separate stories on the same case. South Carolina news circles regard the coming trial as a definite attack on the "freedom of the press."

The indicted men are John H. McCray, publisher of the Lighthouse and Informer, published at Columbia, and Deling Booth, of the Columbia bureau of the Associated Press. Separate true bills were returned against the newsmen by the Greenwood County Grand Jury last Wednesday morning.

McCray and Booth are charged with the libels in separate stories they wrote arising out of the case in which Willie Tolbert Jr., was accused of criminal attack upon a sixteen-year-old white girl, member of a prominent county family. Neither newsmen published the name of the young woman involved.

Courier

YOUTH PAID PENALTY

Tolbert paid with his life for the alleged crime in the state's death chair last October.

Sat 1-14-50

The separate indictments against McCray and Booth contend that excerpts from interviews with the executed colored youth, in which he denied committing the attack upon the young woman, reflected discredit upon the reputation and character of the alleged victim. Both accused men posted $2,500 bonds last Thursday after coming to town here with their attorneys.

27h(1)

A statute in the State of South Carolina prohibits the publication of the names of alleged rape victims, and although the name of the young woman who accused Tolbert was not printed, the state alleges that it is generally known whom she was because her identity was known to those who attended the trial. During the trial she took the stand against Tolbert.

BROAD IMPLICATIONS

Because of the prominence of the alleged victim's family some sources here see even further than that the case is a test on "freedom of the press." Some even have gone so far as to mention the influence of "privilege" and that it is "possibly tinged with politics."

The trial of McCray and Booth has been set for the second Monday in April and will be prosecuted by Solicitor Sam R. Watt of Spartanburg for the state. Atty. John Lumpkin appeared with Booth last week, and the firm of Herbert and Dial for McCray.

Maximum penalty for criminal libel in the State of South Carolina is one year in prison and/or $5,000 fine.

27h (1) 1950 Tennessee 8146

Negro Is Accused Of Rape, Burglary

27h (1)

NASHVILLE, TENN., June 7—(AP)—A 20-year-old Negro was arrested here Wednesday on charges of burglarizing homes, raping a white woman and trying to rape a 14-year-old white girl.

Advertiser

Police Chief Ed Burgess said the youth menaced his victims by holding a knife at their throats. Burgress identified the prisoner as Robert Eugene McEwen, a former reform school inmate.

6-8-50

Police said McEwen was captured about half an hour after entering the bedroom of three white girls and threatening the oldest, aged 14, with his knife.

The prisoner is accused of raping a 35-year-old woman at knifepoint after entering her bedroom April 30.

Woman, 60, Assaulted, Shot 6 Times

27h(1)

Constitution

Mon. 6-19-50

Atlanta, Ga.

JOSEPHINE, Texas, June 18—(AP)—Officers are scouring the North Texas farmland near here for a young Negro who attacked a 60-year-old woman Sunday and shot her six times.

The victim was Mrs. C. H. Thurman, a farm woman who lives one mile west. She is in critical condition in a Greenville hospital.

Mrs. Thurman's 81-year-old mother, Mrs. A. J. Lee, watched the Negro attack her daughter several times between midnight and 5 a. m., and then witnessed the shooting. Mrs. Thurman was shot with her own gun as she tried to telephone the police.

Texas Rangers, State Highway Patrols, sheriff's officers from Collin and Hunt Counties and Greenville police are searching for the man.

Woman Attacked, Shot While Mother Watches

Mon. 6-19-50

27h(1)

Birmingham, Ala.

JOSEPHINE, Tex., June 18—(AP)—Officers are scouring the North Texas farmland near here for a young Negro who raped a 60-year-old woman today and shot her six times.

The victim, Mrs. C. H. Thurman, a farm woman, is in critical condition.

Mrs. Thurman's 81-year-old mother, Mrs. A. J. Lee, watched the Negro rape her daughter several times between midnight and 5 a.m. then witnessed the shooting. Mrs. Thurman was shot with her own gun as she tried to telephone the police.

Clad only in khaki shorts, the Negro entered the Thurman house about midnight. He turned on the lights and said, "This is a stick-up." The women offered their money and jewelry. Then he ripped Mrs. Thurman's gown from her.

"Don't tell the law for two hours," he told the women as he left about 5 a.m. Moments later Mrs. Thurman armed herself with a pistol and tried to telephone officers. The Negro returned, seized the gun and shot her six times.

Boy, 17 Held In Rape Case

Informer

27h(1)

Sat. 7-29-50

Houston, Texas

HOUSTON — Joseph Franklin 17-year-old-Negro youth was arrested in the 1200 block of Hardy street July 23 in connection with an attempted rape report made by a 13-year-old white girl January 18, this year. According to a statement taken by officers in the Record bureau Franklin confessed to the attempted attack and a 19-year-old Negro, Alex Jones, with whom Franklin was found, being held in jail facing charges of harboring a criminal.

The confession made before Mrs. W. E. Elder, police woman of the Crime Prevention bureau and Officers Freeman Jacobs and O. Dougherty, stated that Franklin attacked the girl just off the Burlington Rock Island railroad trestle near White Oak Bayou, and attempted to rape her but ran when he saw officers coming. He was arrested by Officers Sidney Smith and Robert McAfee.

Jones and his family had been hiding Franklin since the crime was reported and awaits charges in the offense.

Accused Man Says He Gave Child $2

Informer

27h(1)

Sat. 10-14-50

Houston, Texas

HOUSTON—Johnny Whittaker, 45 of 2008 Holman, was charged before Justice of the Peace Thomas Maes, last Friday, with molesting a minor in connection with attempting sexual intercourse with a 12-year-old girl.

Whittaker, an employee for the Labor Hall on West street, is married and the father of several children, it was learned. He refused to make a written statement on advice from the president of the Labor Union, officers said but added that Whittaker told them orally that the little girl "invited" him into the house, pulled down the window shades and "invited" him to bed with her. He told officers he gave the girl $2. In a statement to the Informer Monday, the little girl's mother said that she returned home from shopping and suprised Whittaker apparently jumping out of the bed with the girl.

She said that he then pretended to be examining a window of the house as the little girl sat quickly on the bed with fear written upon her features. The mother claimed that the girl was forced with an ice pick to get into the bed.

The mother said that Whittaker has an [illegible] of going in and out of her residence because the pre[illegible] by the [illegible] employed [illegible] or janitor [illegible] the Un[illegible] pretended that he was examining the window when she surprised him, the mother stated.

She said that she took the girl to the Crime Prevention Bureau at Police Station and made a report about 2p.m. but the Whittaker was not arrested until about 8:20 p.m. after the mother called the white woman she works for and the white woman in turn called the police station and reported the crime again.

Mrs. Lola Phillips, the white woman told a reporter Monday that the mother probably misunderstood the officers' statement concerning having the girl examined and swearing out a warrant for the arrest of Whittaker, and thought that the officers were not going to arrest the man that day. She said that only the address of the Union Hall was given by the mother at the time the report was made.

Orally, Whittaker told officers that he passed the house where the girl lives earlier Friday and she asked him for $2. He continued that he told the girl that he would have to cash his check first. He returned to the house with the $2 and the girl invited him in and to bed, he told officers.

The mother said that the girl told her that Whitaker forced her to take the $2 with the ice pick he used to force her to get into the bed. The examination at the Jefferson Davis hospital was negative as Whittaker was suprised by the mother before completing the act.

Policemen On Trail Of Rapist

27h(1)

Informer

Sat. 3-25-50

Houston, Texas

HOUSTON — A 16-year-old girl charged a man with forcing her into his car and carrying her to a house in the 2000 block of Lockwood drive before day Sunday morning. Officers had a description of the man and were looking for him Monday.

According to the girl's story, she stopped by a cafe where one of her woman relatives worked to get a sandwich and that the man was parked at the drive-in type of cafe along with other customers. When she came out of the cafe, the man forced her into his car in the presence of the woman relative and the other people at the place and took her to the address on Lockwood, the girl said.

She said that when they got to the house a man let them in and that she saw a woman in the place wearing a house coat but that she did not think that the woman saw her. The girl continued that the man forced her into the sexual relationship. Police have the name of a man suspected of the rape.

Says Man Offered To Escort Her To Home

2772

HOUSTON— A 30-year-old Houston woman reported that she had been raped by two men December 22 after leaving a popular night spot with the men who had promised to carry her to her residence. The report was made to cruising policemen after the officers had been mistakenly flagged down by one of the men the woman accuses.

According to officers, the man thought the police car was the "rape" car whose driver had put the woman and one of the men out at the Public School stadium, but who, evidently, was expected back by the man who flagged the officers down.

Officers [illegible] J. Hollingshead and R. L. Spivey said they were cruising on Cullen Boulevard about 3 a. m., December 22 when a man flagged them down. When they drew up to the stadium at 3801 Cullen Boulevard, the woman ran to the car and began telling them of how she had been raped by two men, one of them being the man who had flagged the car down. The officers arrested Billy J. Daily, the man who had flagged the car, for questioning.

According to the story told in a written statement to homicide by the woman, Daily invited her to join his party at the night spot and later offered to carry her home. There were three other people in the car, the driver and another man and a woman. The driver took the others home first and then stopped at a filling station where he was joined by another man who sat in the back of the car. Daily and the woman were sitting in the front seat of the car, according to her statement.

The woman said she suddenly became suspicious and screamed, but that Daily choked her and held her down in the front seat. She said that Daily then forced her into a sexual act with him on the front seat of the car while it was moving and that after they got to the High School Stadium the driver let them out of the car and the man sitting in the back seat took her into the entrance of the stadium, threw her down and raped her. She said that Daily raped her a second time in the stadium and that the other man did too.

After the men had completed their act, the car which Daily was reported to have taken for the car that let them out at the stadium drove up and Daily hailed it to find that it was the police car in which Officers Hollingshead and Spivey were riding.

The woman gave officers her address and also her telephone number. Up to press time she could not be located by reporters. The owner of the apartment where she is supposed to live did not know her by name, but stated that it could be a woman who moved in recently, whose name he does not know.

Informer

Dec 30

12-30-50

Houston Tex

Informer

27h (1)   1950

Virginia

8147

Youth Claims Woman Invited Visi

Alleged Rapist, 19, Draws Sixty Years

Courier

Pet. 3-18-50

APPOMATTOX, Va.—A Circuit Court jury convicted Arthur Bigelow, a 19-year-old laborer, of a charge of attempting to rape a white woman and set his punishment at 60 years in the state penitentiary.

The woman, 33-year-old wife of a farmer of the Evergreen community, near here, is the mother of eight children. She said Bigelow entered her home the afternoon of Jan. 3[illegible], threatened her with a fish knife and tried to choke her. She said he fled when she shouted for help. The woman said she had seen Bigelow for the first time that morning in a nearby store.

Bigelow, who pleaded not guilty, said he first met the woman about eighteen months ago, in Lynchburg. He said they had talked privately earlier in the day and that she had invited him to her home. While he was there, Bigelow said, they heard a noise and the woman, thinking it was her husband returning home, shouted, "rape!"

27h (1)

Va

Defense Atty. Jack Snoddy made a motion to set aside the verdict on the ground that Judge Joel Flood should not have answered the jury when it came back into the court room and asked when the State Parole Board could release Bigelow for good behavior.

The judge said he will hear arguments on the motion later this month.

Woods Combed For Giant Who Attacked Girl

Post-Herald

Thurs.

Beauty From Ecuador Criminally Assaulted

8-31-50

ARLINGTON, Va., Aug. 30—(U.P.)—Searchers combed the woods of this Washington suburb today for some trace of a giant Negro who beat, stripped and raped a 23-year-old Latin American beauty from Ecuador.

Police conceded early today that they were at a dead end in their search. Bloodhounds brought to the scene were called off last night. Nevertheless extra police were kept on duty in hopes that they could pick up some kind of a clue to the assailant.

Condition Satisfactory

The tiny woman, a member of an aristocratic Eucadorian family who arrived in this country only three months ago to study English, was in satisfactory condition in Arlington Hospital. Police were hampered in their attempts to find her attacker by her unfamiliarity with the language.

She could only describe the criminal hysterically as "a giant, a colored man."

According to police, the attack took place at about 4 p.m., yesterday, as the girl was strolling along a trail in a wooded area in the Fairlington section—a fashionable residential area for many government officials and federal employes.

They said the girl was beaten badly, thrown to the ground, and raped repeatedly. They said the Negro ripped her clothes to shreds.

Escaping from her attacker, they said, the bewildered, half-nude girl aparently roamed the woods for some minutes searching for help. Holding her brown shopping bag before her nude breasts, she finally came upon three young boys and enlisted their aid.

The boys told police later they thought her tattered clothing was red. Instead, it was stained by her blood.

Children Rush For Aid

The children rushed to nearby homes with the hysterical victim, shouting for aid. Miss Isabelle Greene quickly opened her door.

Oh, mama mia," the girl sobbed, "please help me." She collapsed.

Before she was taken away in an ambulance, the girl was able to tell police the approximate scene of the attack and describe her assailant in her broken English.

Police soon found a pool of blood and scraps of clothing that bore out the viciousness of the attack.

Bloodhounds were rushed to the scene from Lorton, Va., reformatory. The dogs picked up a scent, but so many people from neighboring homes had visited the spot in the meantime they soon lost it.

A short time later police arrested a construction worker as a suspect. But he was released last night.

Neighbors said the girl is an accomplished pianist who is shy, quiet and a favorite "baby sitter" in the area.

"She's not like some of the girls," one said. "She was really a little afraid of boys, although I believe she dated a couple of French boys who live in Washington."

The girl lives with her aunt in Fairlington. Neighbors said the trail on which she was attacked is used frequently by residents in the area as a short cut to their homes from a nearby shopping center.

Rape Suspect Eludes Police In Arlington

Post

Washington, D.C.

Runs 'Like Deer' In Woods; Rewards Now Up to $1000

Arlington police yesterday combed the wooded area where a 23-year-old Equadorian girl was raped Tuesday in a vain search for a man who "ran like a deer" when sighted about 10 a. m.

Fifteen policemen were taken from their beats to tramp the woods behind S. 31st rd. in Fairlington for five hours, but the hunt was called off at 3 p. m. when searchers failed to find a trace of the man.

Described as a Negro wearing a blue shirt, the fleet-foted suspect was first sighted about 150 yards from the county property yard by Capt. Raymond Cole, Detective Dudley Rector, and property yard attendant David Carter.

Earlier yesterday, police released a third suspect, whose alibi checked out after four hours questioning. Two other men have been released, after questioning.

9-1-50

Rewards for capture of the rapist, described by police as a muscular, heavily-built Negro in his twenties, rose to $1000, as the Arlington County Board agreed to add $500.

Falls Church garage owner Harry W. Nalls, offered $500 Wednesday for capture of the attacker within 15 days. The board's offer was for "apprehension and conviction" of the rapist, according to Chairman Daniel A. Dugan.

Assault, Rape Try Involved

Socialite Sues For $15,000

Courier

27h (1) Va

PETERSBURG, Va.—Miss Geraldine McCoy, a staff secretary at Virginia State College, has filed suit for $15,000 damages in Hustings Court of Petersburg, against Edward B. Farley, a prosperous young businessman, on charges growing out of an alleged assault and rape attempt.

In a warrant sworn out in the early part of 1950, Miss McCoy alleged that Mr. Farley beat her and attempted to rape her in the wee hours of the morning at a night club on South Avenue in Petersburg, after having returned her from a party they attended in Richmond, Va.

ACQUITTED OF RAPE

The case pended in the court sometime before it finally came to trial. When the case was called Mr. Farley waived jury and was tried by Judge R. T. Wilson, who acquitted him of attempted rape but convicted him of assault and battery and fined him $250.

Miss McCoy is bringing suit for alleged embarrassment and humiliation. Both parties to the suit are very popular in Petersburg's young society, and have mutual friends who regret the existing situation.

Miss McCoy is a graduate of Virginia State College and since graduation has held a position as secretary. Mr. Farley is a veteran of World War II.

Comb Woods For Giant Negro Who Beat, Stripped, Raped Aristocratic Latin Beauty

Daily News 27th [illegible] Va

Wed. 8-30-50 [illegible]

ARLINGTON, Va.—(UP)—Searchers combed the woods of this Washington suburb today for some trace of a giant Negro who beat, stripped and raped a 23-year-old Latin American beauty from Ecuador.

Police conceded early today that they were at a dead end in their search. Bloodhounds brought to the scene were called off last night. Nevertheless extra police were kept on duty in hopes that they could pick up some kind of a clue to the assailant.

The tiny girl, a member of an aristocratic Ecuadorian family who arrived in this country only three months ago to study English, was in satisfactory condition in Arlington hospital. Police were hampered in their attempts to find her attacker by her unfamiliarity with the language.

She could only describe the criminal hysterically as "a giant, a colored man."

According to police, the attack took place about 4 p. m. yesterday, as the girl was strolling along a trail in a wooded area in the Arlington section—a fashionable residential area for many government officials and federal employes.

They said the girl was beaten badly, thrown to the ground, and raped repeatedly. They said the Negro ripped her clothing to shreds.

Escaping from her attacker, they said, the bewildered, half-nude girl apparently roamed the woods for some minutes searching for help. Holding her brown shopping bag before her nude breasts, she finally came upon three young boys and enlisted their aid.

The boys told police later they thought her tattered clothing was red. Instead, it was stained with her blood.

The children rushed to nearby homes with the hysterical victim, shouting for aid. Miss Isabelle Greene quickly opened her door.

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Before she was taken away in an ambulance. the girl was able to tell police the approximate scene of the attack and described her assailant in her broken English.

Police soon found a pool of blood and scraps of clothing that bore out the viciousness of the attack.

Girl Accuses Man Of Attacking Her

27h(2)

News Ala

A 24-year-old man is in City Jail charged with the rape of a Shades Mountain girl.

Police identified the man as Robert Willis Phillips, 24, Birmingham, Rt. 4.

Detectives G. V. Evans and Paul E. McMahan said the girl, 22, told them she was attacked at 5:15 a.m. Sunday as she was walking with Phillips.

Detectives quoted the girl as saying she was thrown to the ground at a parking lot in the 1800 block of Fifth Avenue North.

The officers said the girl told of being choked, beaten and threatened by Phillips.

Phillips was arrested this morning by Officers E. E. Hayes and R. E. Burns.

Birmingham Ala

Lee Youth Freed On Rape Count

27h(2)

Original Trial Error Cited By High Court In Dismissing Charge

Advertiser

The Alabama Supreme Court Thursday ordered the release of a young Navy veteran who was convicted of raping a six-year-old girl at a carnival.

The man, Curtis Smith, 23, of Opelika, was given his freedom on grounds that a verdict was never returned on his indictment by a Lee County Circuit Court, but on another charge.

Smith has been out on bail since Feb. 11 last year. Today's court order discharged a $[illegible] bond which he made under the lower court decree.

Montgomery Ala

It was the second appeal in the case. Previously, the State Court of Appeals held the conviction was illegal.

Smith was indicted by a grand jury on a charge of carnal knowledge of a girl under 12 years of age. The jury, however, returned a verdict of guilty of rape.

"Without doubt, since the indictment was for carnal knowledge and no verdict was returned on that indictment, but to the contrary, one for some other offense was rendered and the jury discharged, the necessery intendment of the finding was that the defendant was innocent of the offense charged," the court said.

"The import of such a verdict was to put the defendant in jeopardy should he again be called on to defend against the indictment," the court continued. "Or, in fact, any other indictment for the same offense."

Man Hides In Back Of Car; Hueytown Lad Fights As Attacker Grabs Girl Friend

News 3-23-50

Birmingham Ala.

BESSEMER, Ala., March 23—A 17-year-old Hueytown High School boy was shot last night fighting to protect his girl friend from an attack by a man who had hidden in their car.

The boy, Curtis Jones, of Hueytown, told this story to Brighton police:

He and his girl friend, of Pleasant Grove, also a Hueytown High student, went into an ice cream parlor in Fairfield.

* * *

AFTER REMAINING in the ice cream place for a while, they went out and got into the car and started driving away.

A man arose from a crouching position in the back seat. He ordered Curtis to drive to the Sheet Mill Road.

27h(2)

On the road, the man ordered Curtis to stop the car. Then he ordered him to get out.

Curtis opened the door and his girl friend cried out, "Don't leave me."

Ala

CURTIS TURNED and the man already had hold of the girl. Curtis then attacked the man. The man pulled a pistol, shot Curtis in the right arm and fled on foot.

The girl fainted.

After the girl came to, the couple flagged a North Bessemer streetcar. The streetcar operator took them to Brighton, where they reported to police.

* * *

CURTIS WAS taken from the police station to Bessemer General Hospital. His wound was determined to be not serious. He was treated and dismissed.

Brighton Police Chief Paul Sims and Officers C. S. Murphy and J. B. Coleman investigated the incident.

Miner, 27, Accused Of Attack On Girl, 19

News

BESSEMER, Ala., April 7—A Trussville miner was in County Jail here today charged with raping a 19-year-old Dolomite girl.

The man, Edward Earnest Bowman, 27, of Trussville Route 1, was being held under $1,000 bond.

Fairfield police made the arrest. They said they received from the girl's father yesterday a complaint that she was criminally attacked Wednesday near the commissary in Dolomite.

4-7-50

Birmingham

27h(2)

A warrant was sworn out in the sheriff's office here yesterday.

Police said Bowman had accompanied the girl to a night spot near Dolomite Wednesday evening. They said it was reported to them she had known Bowman about three weeks.

Ala

Bowman is employed at Acmar Mine.

Youth Is Sought In Assault Case Near Bessemer

27h(2)

Ex-Wac Victim; Five Deputies In Widespread Hunt

News

BESSEMER, Ala., April 22—Sheriff's deputies were combing the Bessemer area Saturday for a blond youth in his early twenties, who is wanted in the rape here yesterday of a young Broadmoor woman.

The woman, a former Wac, told deputies she was attacked after accepting a ride from the man as she waited for a Bessemer streetcar near Broadmoor.

4-22-50

She said the youth turned towards Hueytown at 19th Street, in Bessemer, and took her to a secluded spot where the attack occurred.

Birmingham Ala

SHE SAID THE MAN threatened her life repeatedly during the two hours he forced her to remain in the car. She said the attack occurred between 3 and 5 p.m.

Chief Deputy Clyde Morris, of the Bessemer Cutoff, said he had assigned five deputies to find the youth. He said the youth was believed to be driving a late model Chevrolet.

Chief Morris said the girl called deputies at approximately 5 p.m. yesterday.

He said she told them the youth left her at Sixth Avenue and 20th Street in Bessemer after the attack.

Ex-Wac's Alleged Attacker At Large

News

27h(2)

Age-Herald

Ala

BESSEMER, Ala., April 22—Deputy sheriff's late Saturday had failed to locate a blond youth in his early 20s who allegedly raped a 27-year-old ex-Wac here Friday afternoon.

4-23-50

The young woman, a resident of Broadmoor, near Bessemer, told deputies she accepted a ride from the young man, who was driving a late model Chevrolet. She was waiting for a Bessemer streetcar near Broadmoor at the time.

Birmingham Ala

* * *

THE YOUTH TURNED toward Hueytown at 19th Street in Bessemer, then drove to a secluded spot. The young woman said the youth threatened her life several times during the two hours she was forced to remain in the automobile. He then drove back to Bessemer and left her at Sixth Avenue and 20th Street.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Clyde Morris has assigned five deputies to the case.

Tuscaloosan Sentenced For Intent To Ravish

27h(2)

BESSEMER, ALA., June 14—(AP)— Ed Wilmon, 22, Tuscaloosa, Wednesday was sentenced to three years on conviction of a charge of assault with intent to ravish a 15-year-old Tuscaloosa girl.

Advertiser

He filed notice of appeal.

Court attaches said Wilson faces a similar charge in Tuscaloosa County involving another 15-year-old school girl.

A warrant issued May 3 charged Wilmon picked up the two girls on their way to school and brought them to an isolated place near Bessemer.

6-15-50

One of the girls charged he raped her there. The warrant accused him of raping the other girl later near Bucksville in Tuscaloosa County.

Montgomery Ala

Wilmon was originally charged with rape here but the charge was reduced on agreement of the solicitor's office.

Circuit Judge Garner Goodwyn pronounced sentence.

The jury found him guilty after deliberating about two hours.

Assault slaying break is hinted

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., July 1—Police had high hopes Saturday that the four-year-old rape-slaying of a Holt girl may be solved from a statement given them by a "peeping tom" arrested four days ago near the scene of the slaying.

Police Chief H. D. Billingsley sand he is holding Oscar Lee May, 22, after the Negro was arrested as a peeping tom in South Holt last Wednesday night.

7-1-50

Chief Billingsley said May first gave a statement admitting the slaying of Miss Martha Mosely and then denied it. May also described to police a second Negro known only as "Pete" whom May says did the actual killing.

May, who works as an ice deliveryman, was described by Billingsley as "definitely abnormal and weakminded." He said he is trying to check all points of May's statement.

Police said after May told them he was standing near the place the Mosely girl got off a bus on the night of Jan. 14, 1947. He told officers he saw the Negro known as "Pete" slip up behind the girl and strike her on the head with a brick.

27(21)

* * *

THE SLAYING OCCURRED in a wooded section less than a half a mile from her home.

May told officers, they said, that he went down "to help the girl," but denied that he ever put his hand on her.

The body of the frail girl was found in a pine thicket some 20 hours after she was slain. Official records list a brain concussion as cause of death.

Dr. S. T. Hardin, Tuscaloosa County coroner at the time, said the girl had been dragged 100 feet into the woods near Holt High School and brutally ravished.

* * *

HOLT IS LOCATED on Warrior River about six miles northeast of Tuscaloosa.

Chief Billingsley said today he "hopes" this may break the mystery.

We're going to continue our investigation and try to locate the Negro referred to by May," the chief said. "We don't know at this point just what importance to attach to what evidence we have."

Jury finds two guilty in attack on state girl

27(21)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 20—(AP)—Two local men were found guilty by jury here last night of raping a North Alabama girl, 17.

Marcus Dover, 29, was sentenced to 99 years and Harold Vinson, 28, to 21 years in the state penitentiary by Judge Raulston Schoolfield.

12-22-50

The four-day trial ended after the male jury deliberated three hours and 31 minutes.

A special prosecutor yesterday demanded the death penalty for "the worst case bearing none, we have ever tried."

The state contended Dover raped the girl while Vinson robbed her 17-year-old escort and held the youth at gunpoint, on the Chattanooga outskirts June 11.

Attorneys for both men announced last night they would file a motion a new trial.

Four-year-old girl assaulted, man held

Robert Harris, 22, 556 South 64th Street, was in City Jail today on a charge of raping a 4-year-old girl at her Southside home yesterday afternoon.

Investigators said they understood Harris had been employed to put up a stove pipe. They said Harris sent the girl's 5-year-old brother to the store for cookies. The children's mother, a hospital nurse's aid, was at work.

The girl was treated by a private physician.

Investigating were City Detectives H. L. Darnell and C. L. Stevens and Patrolmen G. F. Faulkner and T. E. Sellers.

Matron escapes—

Man indecently clad is sought by police for assault attempt

A slender young man with a full mustache was sought today after police said he attempted to rape a Northside matron on 26th Street between 23rd and 24th Avenues, North, yesterday afternoon.

The woman told investigators the man was clad in nothing but an oliver drab field jacket when he jumped from beneath a bridge on 26th Street.

She said he grabbed her arm and attempted to drag her under the bridge. He released her and ran to an old model automobile when a coal truck passed.

He drove away at a high rate of speed.

12-8-50

The woman was uninjured.

Police sought the man on charges of attempt rape and indecent exposure

* * *

YESTERDAY'S incident which occurred shortly after 6 p.m., followed widespread reports of indecent exposure by a man in Ensley, West End and Central Park. Children have been stopped by him while going home from school, police said

27(21)

Police Lt. G. T. Wilson reported that indecent exposure offenses are widespread in this area. He encouraged all witnesses to such acts to report immediately to police.

He said names of witnesses will not be released and promised they will "be treated with respect when they appear in court."

Held For Attack On Ala. Schoolgirl, 5

MOBILE, Ala. — Robert Westphal, 25-year-old white man, was arrested last week on a crime against nature charge involving a five-year-old girl in a Catholic school kindergarden class.

Westphal, employed to put stained glass in windows at a colored Mobile Catholic church, is acused of having lured the child into the church during a recess Tuesday to commit the sordid sex act.

27h(2) 1950 Arizona 8149

WOMAN, 68, SLAIN IN TRAIN SLEEPER

Discharged Rail Worker Is Accused of Murder

Ariz. 8-11-50

(The Associated Press)

Douglas, Ariz., Aug. 10—A savage killer choked a 68-year-old Iowa spinster to death and mutilated her body in a lower berth of the Southern Pacific's Golden State Limited early Thursday.

Miss Ada C. Park was slain in a rape attack as the streamliner sped across the bleak Southern Arizona desert before dawn.

Harold T. Lantz, 28, a discharged Southern Pacific employe, was charged with murder.

The body was found in lower 10 of the train's Minneapolis sleeper after Lantz ran down the aisle shouting that a woman had been killed.

27h(2)

Sheriff J. V. Pruitt said Lantz first told conductor Tom Bryan another man had killed the woman, but later admitted choking her.

Ariz

Blames Tequila

The victim, a Grinnell, Iowa, temperance worker and former teacher, had been bitten and clawed on the neck and breast, Pruitt said. Fresh scratches on Lantz's face indicated Miss Park had resisted the attack.

Charles Modesette, city editor of the Bisbee (Ariz.) Daily Review, talked with Lantz after he was jailed at nearby Bisbee.

"He told me he had bought a bottle of tequilla (a Mexican liquor) in Tucson and doesn't remember boarding the train," Modesette said.

After telling Lantz what the sheriff charged, the newspaperman asked, "Is that right?"

"I guess so," Lantz replied. "I know I wouldn't have done anything if I hadn't had that bottle."

Sheriff Pruitt said Lantz, who weighs 180 pounds, had no idea who the woman was. The man had boarded the train at Tucson without a ticket.

Fired Week Ago

"He just climbed on and no train official noticed him." Pruitt said. "He was just bumming."

At Douglas the station agent said he didn't believe any of the passengers knew immediately what had happened.

At Tucson a Southern Pacific official said Lantz had been fired last week after being with the railroad as a carpenter's helper since July 12. The official said Lantz's work was unsatisfactory.

Lantz told Pruitt he had received a dishonorable discharge from the Army in 1942. He had lived in Tucson four years. Prior to that, he said, he resided in Coydon, Pa., and was a native of Richmond, W. Va.

Woman Is Slain On Streamliner

27h(2) Ariz

DOUGLAS, ARIZ., Aug. 10—(AP)—A savage killer choked an elderly Iowa spinster to death and mutilated her body in a lower berth of the Southern Pacific's Golden Gate State Limited early Thursday.

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The body was found in lower 10 of the train's Minneapolis sleeper after Lantz ran down the aisle shouting that a woman had been killed.

The victim was a temperance worker and former teacher. Fresh scratches on Lantz's face indicated Miss Park had resisted attack.

8-11-50

Elderly Spinster Is Raped and Slain In Berth of Southern Pacific Train

Suspect Jailed In Arizona

27h(2)

Douglas, Ariz., Aug. 10 (AP)—A savage killer chocked an elderly Iowa spinster to death and mutilated her body in a lower berth of the Southern Pacific's Golden State Limited early today.

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The body was found after Lantz ran down the aisle shouting that a woman had been killed.

Courier Journal

Blamed Another Man

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Ariz. 8-11-50

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"He told me he had bought a bottle of tequilla (a Mexican liquor) in Tucson and doesn't remember boarding the train," Modesette said.

Louisville, Ky.

Had No Ticket

After telling Lantz what the sheriff charged, the newspaperman asked, "Is that right?"

"I guess so," Lantz replied. "I know I wouldn't have done anything if I hadn't had that bottle."

Sheriff Pruitt said Lantz, who weighs 180 pounds, had no idea who the woman was. He had boarded the train at Tucson without a ticket.

"He just climbed on and no train official noticed him," Pruitt said. "He was just bumming."

Dishonorably Discharged

The car in which Miss Park was murdered was about midway in the streamliner. It was composed primarily of drawing rooms and compartments, with only six upper and six lower berths.

Lantz told Pruitt he had received a dishonorable discharge from the Army in 1942. He had lived in Tucson four years. Before that, he said, he lived in Corydon, Pa., and was a native of Richwood, W. Va.

At Grinnell, Miss Park's relatives reported she was returning home after visiting a brother, Hubbard Park, at Marina, Cal., and a niece, Mrs. Ruth Gnau, at Phoenix.

27h(2) 1950 Canada

8150

Charge Father With Rape Of 4 Daughters, Incest, Indecent Assault On 3

MONTREAL—(P)—Leopold Bergeron, 42-year-old groom for the city's mounted police, [illegible] was charged with the [illegible] of his daughters, incest with two others and indecent assault on the seventh. [illegible] from [illegible] to 21.

Appearing before Judge T. A. Fontaine in criminal court, Bergeron was originally charged with incest with the eldest four girls but the charge was changed on the suggestion of the crown.

An employee of the city for the last 20 years, Bergeron faces the possibility of life imprisonment, or death, on conviction for rape. Conviction for incest carries a 14-year imprisonment penalty.

Bergeron's daughters all appeared at the preliminary inquiry wearing black mourning dresses. They told Judge Fontaine their father threatened and beat them, then criminally assaulted them on numerous occasions both before and after their mother's death Aug. 2.

8151

44-Year-Old WAF Raped And Slain

Advertiser

27h(2)

Mon. 3-26-50

Calif

Montgomery

HAMILTON FIELD AIR BASE, CALIF., March 25—(AP)—A pretty 44-year-old WAF, wife of a disabled veteran of World War I, was raped and slain beside her barracks early Saturday by an assailant who used commando tactics to garrot her with her own dog-tag chain.

The body of Sgt. Fairy E. Decker, mother of a 22-year-old York, Pa., son, was found virtually nude on a plot of grass six feet behind the barracks where she was on duty during the night as charge-of-quarters.

FBI agents joined military intelligence officers and the Marin County coroner's office in an investigation of rape and murder on this picturesque government reservation on the rim of San Francisco Bay.

Tells of Terror

Child Raped, Then Left for Dead in Barn

27h(2)

Post

Washington

Sun 4-2-50

Stockton Calif., April 1 (U.P.).—A 12-year-old girl who was kidnaped from her struggling 7-year-old brother raped and left for dead wandered back to safety today and told of a ride of terror.

Esther Lobato walked barefoot for 4 miles from the barn where she was raped into a Lockford, Calif., cafe as officers combed the countryside for her and her assailant.

San Joaquin County authorities began rounding up all known sex offenders. The little girl gave them a full description of the man who dragged her screaming into an automobile on the outskirts of Stockton last night while her brother, Ray, put up a brave but futile defense.

Esther, who is 4 feet tall and weighs 59 pounds, said the man told her "I killed a little girl once before."

"Do you intend to kill me," she said she asked.

"No," she quoted him as saying. "You're too small."

Esther said the man knocked her unconscious twice. When she came to the last time, she found herself deserted in the barn. Doctors confirmed that she was raped.

Esther's parents didn't know of her ordeal until it was all over. They were visiting her grandparents at Terminous, Calif., 20 miles away.

LOVER'S LANE GUNMAN RAPES STUDENT NURSE

27h(2)

Calif

Los Angeles, April 21 (AP)—A student nurse was abducted and raped early today by a gunman who slugged and robbed her boy friend. It was the latest in a wave of lovers' lane holdups. Robert Mueller, 22, the boy friend, told police that a tall, curly haired man thrust a gun in the couple's parked car and ordered: "Get out of the car or I'll shoot you!"

Mueller and Miss Carol Ann Cope, 22, a student nurse at General hospital, got out and were ordered to lie on the ground. The gunman slugged Mueller and took $35.

He drove off with Miss Cope in his own car but soon released her. She said he raped her.

White girl raped, refuses to press charges

27h(2)

Tribune

10-14-50

Los Angeles

Calif

A 32-year-old white woman, who summoned police on the double in the wee hours of last Sunday morning to an eastside house where she claimed she had been raped by two Negroes, had changed her mind three days later and refused to sign a complaint because, according to police, she didn't want to testify in court.

Victim of the alleged attacks was Miss Mildred Elliott, of 1718 W. Vernon.

Miss Elliott's story was that she and a friend, Miss Letha Bedwell, of the same address, were drinking at a westside 'after hours' spot with two unidentified Negroes, one of whom was known to them as "Cox."

When the two women prepared to leave, the men allegedly asked to be driven home, Miss Elliott stated.

Upon the party's arrival at 1244 E. Vernon, they were asked in for more drinks, then one of the men disappeared with Miss Bedwell, while the second locked the door and assaulted Miss Elliott, she claimed.

When the act was completed, the men changed places and the routine was repeated, Miss Elliott asserted.

When she was left alone, Miss Elliott called police, and the two men left. Officers searching the house found various cards, bills and rent stubs made out to one Ralph Williams. They took Miss Elliott to the receiving hospital for treatment for "possible rape."

But after making the complaint, officers said, Miss Elliott turned up on Oct. 9 and asked that the charges be dropped.

Eastside woman describes rape orgy with whites

27h(2)

Calif

Tribune

Sat 5-13-50

Los Angeles

An eastside housewife, Mrs. Alice M. Stout, 27, of 5535 S. Central ave., was kidnapped and subjected to hours of sexual depravity by two white men who forced her into their automobile at knife-point near her home last Monday, police reported today.

After being held captive for several hours, during which she was raped and forced to perform perverted acts several times, Mrs. Stout was blindfolded and returned to within a few blocks of her home, she told police.

Relating her harrowing experience, Mrs. Stout, told police that at about 2:30 a.m. she was walking towards home along Central when two white men accosted her from a car. When she ignored them, she said, they kept trailing her, and at 54th st., they got out of the car and grabbed her. One of them put what looked like a paring knife against her neck, she charged, and said, "Come with us for a ride. And don't holler or I'll cut your throat."

Mrs. Stout was blindfolded and driven to a wooded place where the orgy took place, she reported. During the day, she said she was forced to smoke marijuana and listen to a recital of the past sexual experiences of her kidnappers. She also told the police that one of the men left sometime during the day and returned with ice cream and sandwiches.

Only clue she could give the police as to the rapists' identity was that she had burned several small holes in the blankets they had covered her with, and that they kept talking about going back to Oregon.

27h(2) 1950 D.C. 8152

Alexandria Cemetery Worker Acquitted of Raping Girl, 13

27h(2)

An Alexandria Corporation Court jury took less than 10 minutes yesterday to clear Virgil Shipes, former Alexandria cemetery employe, of raping a 13-year-old girl, who has since become a mother.

Post

Shipes, 39, was accused of attacking the daughter of his Alexandria landlady in a parked automobile in May, 1949. The assault occurred, it was charged, when he drove the mother and daughter on a shopping trip and dropped the mother off at a downtown Alexandria store. The girl testified she was attacked in broad daylight when Shipes parked his auto briefly before returning to the store to pick up the mother.

12-2-50

Shipes, whose last address was listed as 1315 Meriden pl., nw., flatly denied the charge.

His attorney, Walter I. Young, told the jury it was "inconceivable" that the girl could have been raped in the time she was alone with Shipes.

It was Shipes' second trial on the same charge. A month ago a jury in the same court was unable to reach a verdict.

Also Robbery

16-Year Old Indicted on Rape Charge

27h(2)

Sixteen-year old Lee V. Boseman was indicted yesterday on one charge of rape, two charges of assault with intent to commit rape, and one charge of robbery.

The youth has been surrendered by Juvenile Court to the jurisdiction of District Court, and is now in jail without bond.

Post 12-2-50

Boseman was indicted for the rape of a 16-year old girl on the night of November 20, in the 1300 block of Sheridan st., nw.

He was also indicted for assaulting and attempting to rape a 20-year old housewife on the night of December 4 in the 6000 block of 13th pl., nw. He was charged with robbing the same woman of $45.

And he was indicted for assaulting, with intent to rape, a 10-year-old girl on the night of November 12, in the 6000 block of Georgia ave. nw., in front of the Nativity Convent.

Boseman, on probation for purse-snatching at the time of his arrest, lives at 1924 11th st. nw.

Davis Scriven, 50, alias Willie Reynolds, was also indicted for assault withintent to commit rape, and robbery.

He is charged with assaulting a 42-year-old Government employe in her McLean Gardens apartment on November 28, and stealing a watch valued at $73, and $33 in cash.

Two grand juries returned a total of 31 indictments, including two for second degree murder.

Arhtur D. Dixon, 41, 215 9th st. se., was charged with murdering his wife Elizabeth, 38, by shooting her on November 18.

Lue L. Ouzts, 30, of 704 Lamont st. nw., was charged wiht the ice-pick murder of Charles Q. Rivers, 22, 513 Kenyon st. nw., on October 30, at the Lamont st. address.

Three indictments charged Duane O. Croffut, 52, of 4012 14th st. nw., with seven counts of violation of the sexual phychopath statute and committing unnatural sevxual practices on four young boys.

27h(2) 1950 D.C. 8153

Death Penalty Asked For Alleged Rapist

Post
Tues. 1-17-50
27h(2)
Washington D.C.

The Government yesterday urged the death penalty for Hugh G. Mincey, 33, for the rape of a 4-year-old girl last September.

Judge T. Alan Goldsborough announced that the case would go to the District Court jury today.

"The court is of the opinion that the jury should approach the consideration of this case when they are not tired," said the judge in dismissing them for the night.

In his concluding argument, Assistant United States Attorney Cecil R. Heflin reminded the jury that Beverly MacDonald, the little girl who was found brutally torn in her abdomen, shortly after the alleged rape, feared Mincey so much that she would not remain in the courtroom.

Only One Way, He Says

Then Heflin said:

"There is only one way to break up crimes of this sort in the District of Columbia. Use the power that Congress has given you and add to your verdict the death penalty. This is not a case where a girl in her teens gave herself willingly. This lititle child was taken by force. She wouldn't submit to that punishment."

Mincey's attorney contended he might have been guilty of "some other crime" but not of rape. They said that he was a family man with four children of his own whose only prior criminal offense was an attempted burglary. Also, they charged that he was not afforded a lawyer when he told police that he had beaten the little girl for cursing him but did not rape her.

Would Be Travesty

Defense Attorney Harry Ahern declared:

"This man is guilty of some crime. To permit him to go free would be a travesty of justice. But he is not guilty of rape."

So badly was the little girl torn, said Ahern, that it was improbable that it was a sexual act. He said the death penalty would be unjust.

"The only probable thing that did it was this man's hand when he beat her. I think he must have been insane when he did it. I don't know," admitted Ahern.

Mincey, a balding ironworker, was on the witness stand for an hour.

In a soft voice with a Southern accent, he told the jury that he was in a lavatory at the rooming house, 518 H st. nw., where he and the alleged victim both resided when she came in and cursed him. He testified:

"I hit her about eight times on the bottom . . . The child didn't even cry when I spanked her . . . If I was asked one time, I was asked a thousand time did I rape that child. I told the police no . . . I never did have no intention of raping the child . . . I didn't spank her no harder than I spank my own children."

Mother of 3 Identifies D. C. Laborer As Attacker

Man Is Charged With Rape Try Aboard Family's Cabin Cruiser Here

Post 27h(2)
1-30-50
Washington D.C.

A man arrested Saturday night for tampering with a public telephone was charged yesterday with assaulting a 35-year-old mother aboard her cabin cruiser home last Thursday, police said.

The man, Joseph B. Vines, 40, a casual laborer, who police said lives at 435 N st. nw., was charged with assault with intent to commit rape after he had been identified by Mrs. Jeannie Williams, the victim, and three other persons.

Vines was arrested by park police after they said they saw him tampering with a public telephone on Columbia Island, near Memorial Bridge. The telephone is placed there for the convenience of picnickers.

Fitted Description

While they were questioning him at their headquarters, the police officers said they realized he fitted the description of Mrs. Williams' attacker—a Negro, aged 35 to 40; 5 feet 7 inches tall; about 195 pounds and with a short mustache.

The Metropolitan police sex squad was called in. Detectives took Vines to Metropolitan police headquarters and summoned Mrs. Williams and the other witnesses. The identifications followed, police said.

Mrs. Williams told police Thursday that a man came aboard her cruiser-home at the Gregory boatyard, 820 Maine ave. sw. He ordered her to disrobe, she said, and get into a bunk. When she snatched for a telephone, he took it from her and slugged her with a piece of pipe, she said.

Mother of Three

The mother of three children said she struggled, wrested the pipe away and hit him in the eye with it. She also bit him, she said, and he fled. She followed, screaming for help. A milkman chased the man but lost him.

Police said Vines admitted being on the boat and assaulting Mrs. Williams, but denied any attempt to rape her. Police said he admitted a conviction in North Carolina for attempted rape, and they said he was convicted here once for larceny.

Mrs. Williams was treated at Emergency Hospital following the attack. Only one child, 2½ years old, was on the boat at the time of the attack, police were told, the other two being in school, and Mrs. Williams' husband at work.

Attacker of Girl, 5, Gets Maximum Term Of 10 to 30 Years

Evening Star
2-4-50
27h(2)
D.C.

Hugh G. Mincey, 33-year-old iron worker, today is under sentence of from 10 to 30 years for raping a child last September, a few days before her fifth birthday.

The sentence, which is the maximum that could be imposed, unless a jury had recommended the death penalty, was given yesterday by District Court Judge T. Alan Goldsborough.

In imposing sentence, Judge Goldsborough described the offense as a "bad one" and declared: "There is no doubt about the defendant's guilt." He then suggested the only thing for the court to do was to give the maximum penalty allowed by law, pointing out that the jury had failed to recommend death.

Father of Four

Mincey attacked the little girl in a bathroom of an apartment hotel at 518 H street N.W. Both he and his victim lived there in different apartments. Mincey, a married man, has four children of his own, the oldest 9 and the youngest 16 months.

In another District Court sentence, Judge David A. Pine gave Russell Broadus, 36, colored, of the 400 block of Q street N.W., from three to 10 years for housebreakings and larcenies. Broadus obtained a total of more than $1,000 in cash and jewelry from an office building and residence, it was said.

Outburst in Court.

Last month, while his case was being argued before the jury by Assistant United States Attorney Robert M. Scott, Broadus arose to his feet and yelled, "Kill me, kill me." Court was recessed and Broadus was taken out by deputy marshals until the defendant calmed down. Judge Pine told him he must behave.

Judge Alexander Holtzoff gave Laura J. Munro, 23, of the 4300 block of Fourth street S.W., from one to five years for robbery in connection with two pocketbook snatchings, which netted small amounts of cash and other items.

The woman, who is white, was said to have driven an automobile used in the robberies, while a young colored man was accused of actually snatching the pocketbooks. The woman had pleaded guilty. The man, Samuel Carter, 21, colored, of the 1700 block of Stanton terrace S.E., pleaded innocent to the charges and is awaiting trial.

Rape Attempt Suspect Shot As He Tries to Flee Police

Post 27h(2)
D.C.
Sun. 4-9-50
Washington D.C.

Brought down while fleeing by a policeman's bullet, in his back, a man was in critical condition in Gallinger Hospital yesterday. He was under police guard, charged with assault with intent to commit rape.

The defendant is Benjamin Lewis, 27, of 742 7th st. ne.

About 12:30 a. m., near Half and K sts. se., Police Pvt. T. R. Thomas, walking his beat, heard a woman screaming. As he approached, a man fled. Thomas said he pursued, fired in the air twice, as a warning to stop.

When the fugitive kept going, Thomas said, he fired once at the man and shortly afterward found him on the ground near a filling station in the 1100 block of S. Capitol st. Thomas summoned an ambulance.

The woman was identified as Mrs. Helen Carroll, 32, of 217 I st. sw., mother of nine children. She told police she had left the home of friends and walked to the bus stop to meet another friend. When that person did not arrive, she said, she started to return to the home where she had been. Then, she said, the attack occurred. She said she was not injured.

Lieut. E. E. Scott, head of the robbery squad, said Lewis has a long police record including robbery, housebreaking and attempted safe burglary.

Soldier Ordered Held In Rape of Girl, 13

27h(2)
Post

Richard L. Beall, jr., 19-year-old Army private, said by police to be AWOL from his Alaska base, was held without bond for the grand jury yesterday on charges he raped an [illegible]-year-old girl.

He waived a hearing before Trial Magistrate James R. Miller in Bethesda Police Court. Beall was arrested November 6, shortly after the attack is alleged to have taken place in his Bethesda home.

Senator's Aide Charged With Sex Offense

27h(2)
Post
Washington D.C.

Earl R. Howsam, administrative assistant to Senator Edwin C. Johnson (D., Col.), will appear in Municipal Court today charged with committing an indecent act.

Howsam was arrested by two vice squad officers in the men's room of Lafayette Park across from the White House, at 1:30 a. m. Sunday.

He was taken to the First Precinct station, booked, and released under $500 bond.

Howsam and Johnson appeared yesterday at a 90-minute preliminary hearing with Assistant United States Attorney Warren Wilson, in charge of Municipal Court prosecutions.

Wilson said papers charging Howsam would be filed in court today. He said Howsam offered no explanation of the incident.

Howsam dodged photographers and reporters and refused to comment. A native of Denver, Colo., he is married, the father of two children, and lives at 159 S. Virginia dr., Falls Church, Va.

Senator Johnson, who has investigated Hollywood morals as chairman of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, also refused to talk to reporters. Wilson said Johnson attended the closed-door hearing.

Johnson said Howsam, 35, has worked as his assistant for about two years.

Howsam was not represented by an attorney at the preliminary hearing. No bond cases were tried in Municipal Court yesterday, as the entire court adjourned early in tribute to Judge Emory B. Smith, who died Sunday.

Wife, 24, Found Raped, Slain In Locked Car Near Pittsburgh

Post

11-12-50

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 11 (U.P.).—A 24-year-old housewife was found raped and murdered today in her husband's car on a lonely country road.

Police searched for a mysterious caller who telephoned them, "If you will go to Bodi rd. in Wilkens Township, you will find the body of a murdered woman in her car."

The woman, Mrs. Helen Pugliano, was found lying in the seat of the car. Assistant District Attorney Henry Strauss said Mrs. Pugliano had been raped before she was shot to death at point-blank range.

Her clothing had been torn from her body and her shoes were outside the automobile. The car doors were locked from the outside.

Strauss said it was possible the man who called police was the murderer. He said nobody but the murderer could have locked the car doors and that it would have been difficult for a passerby to tell from outside the car whether Mrs. Pugliano had been murdered.

The woman's husband, James, was held for questioning. Police said he was found at work shortly after his wife's body was discovered. Pugliano, 27, of Turtle Creek, Pa., denied any knowledge of the crime.

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reveal he lost the money on a loan to a couple who "skipped town." Police were investigating his story of the loan.

Wells said he agreed to the plan so he could tell police. He demanded $75 down, but settled for $40.

Mrs. Valentin said she would "stick by" her husband because he was "a very sick man who didn't know what he was doing."

Girl, 10, Accuses Her Stepdad, 35, of Rape

A 35-year-old Arlington electrician was charged with rape yesterday on the complaint of his 10-year-old stepdaughter that he assaulted her Tuesday.

The accused man, William S. McCauley, of 2945 S. Glebe rd., faces a preliminary hearing today in Arlington County Court. Police said the daughter told them the assault took place in the house while her mother was away.

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3 Youths Held For Assault On Housewife

Post

12-19-50

Three youths were arraigned yesterday on charges of raping and robbing a 33-year-old housewife in the 1300 block of Union st. sw., early Saturday morning.

Taken before United States Commissioner Cyril S. Lawrence, were John Smith, 19, of 1227 K st. se.; Neal D. White, 18, of 470 M st. sw., and Charles Clayton Turner, 21, of 930 1st st. sw.

All were ordered held without bond, and the case was continued to January 3.

The housewife told police she was on her way home from a neighbor's party when the three attacked her, threw her to the ground and dragged her into an alley. One of the youths raped her and they took $10.50 from her before fleeing. She was treated at Gallinger Hospital for severe bruises.

Police said White admitted committing the rape and the other two have admitted being present during the attack.

Suspect Charged With Rape, Held In $10,000 Bond

Post

John Walter Ferguson, 25, of 3011 Stanton rd. se., was charged with rape and ordered held under $10,000 bond yesterday for action of the grand jury.

The woman, a 25-year-old housewife, testified in Municipal Court that Ferguson assaulted her twice during five hours in which she was held prisoner in a car parked in an alley behind 2016 Georgia ave. nw.

She told Judge Andrew J. Howard, jr., that Ferguson also broke a bottle on her head and struck her repeatedly with his fists.

Ferguson denied all charges. He said he entered the car with the woman at 8:30 p. m., Friday, went to sleep 30 minutes later, and remembered nothing until he was arrested in the car at 2 a. m., yesterday morning.

Assault on Girl, 17, On Sheridan Street Brings Police Drive

11-21-50

Sex squad detectives today are searching files of known degenerates for a clue to the rapist who assaulted a 17-year-old girl on a well-lighted street only 140 feet from her home last night.

Less than an hour before the rape occurred in the 1300 block of Sheridan street N.W., police were alerted to the presence of a sexual psycopath in the neighborhood when a woman in the 1300 block of Rittenhouse street reported a man had indecently exposed himself to her.

One police scout car responded to the indecent exposure report at 7:45 p.m. The officer got a report from the woman who said the man accosted her in an alley behind her home and asked directions to Sixteenth street. When she replied, the woman said, the man exposed himself and walked hurriedly toward Fourteenth street.

Police Cruise Neighborhood.

The policemen cruised the neighborhood, saw nothing suspicious and left on other duties.

Meanwhile, the pretty dark-haired girl left the Georgia avenue candy store where she is employed and started walking through the rain toward her home.

As she neared her home, the rapist seized her from behind, struck her on the head and grabbed her around the throat. She lost consciousness and did not get a good look at her assailant.

After the rapist fled the girl remained unconscious on the ground. A woman walking home saw her and ran to the nearest house to summon aid.

Staggers to Her Home.

While the woman was rapping on the door, the girl regained consciousness and staggered up the street toward her home. Her mother, meanwhile, had come out on the front porch to look up the street for her daughter.

When the mother reported the attack, scout cars and headquarters cruisers sped to the scene and an intensive hunt began for the man who had committed the indecent-exposure act earlier. He was described as a slender blond in his early 20s, standing about 5 feet 11 inches. He was wearing parts of an old Army uniform.

The girl was treated at Gallinger Hospital.

Fort Meade Soldier Is Charged With Raping Woman, 40

Post

A 23-year-old Fort Meade soldier was charged yesterday with committing rape on a 40-year-old woman about 2:30 a. m. Saturday on the military reservation.

The man, Corpl. James L. Farrar of Clifton Forge, Va., assigned to the 201st Area Service Unit, was turned over to the U. S. Marshal in Baltimore since the Army is not permitted to try rape or murder cases within the United States, a Fort Meade spokesman said.

The victim's condition is listed as good at the Fort Meade hospital. The spokesman said she was beaten, choked and raped.

Farrar told Army investigators, they said, that he had been acquitted of two previous rape charges in 18 months—one as a civilian and the other as a soldier. He has been in the Army less than a year.

Youth Admits Third in Series Of Sex Crimes

Post

12-7-50

A 16-year-old Cardozo High School student, who said he had "an uncontrollable urge" to assault women in rainy weather, yesterday confessed to the third of a series of recent sex crimes in northeast Washington, police reported.

The youth admitted attempting to rape a 10-year-old girl at Visitation Convent November 12, police said. He was frightened away by a nun clapping her hands from a nearby window.

Police arrested the stocky, muscular boy Tuesday at a Georgia ave. drug store, where he was a part-time porter. They said he confessed to the rape of a 17-year-old girl November 20 in the 1300 block of Sheridan st. nw., and to the attempted rape of a 20-year-old housewife December 4 in the 6000 block of 13th pl. nw.

A special squad of detective made a door-to-door canvass of business establishments from the 4000 to the 8000 block of Georgia ave. They had arrested a suspect in the convent case, but released him after the second crime, linking that with the first.

With the third attack, police noted all three occurred between 8 and 9 p. m., in rainy weather and within five blocks of the drug store.

The student came under suspicion when police learned he had given a false home address at the drug store and records revealed he was on probation in two pocketbook snatchings.

The youth, charged with rape and two counts of attempted rape, said he selected his victims as they walked by the drug store. He would then slip out, follow and attack them.

He was committed to District jail with approval of Juvenile Court authorities, who will decide whether he will be tried in District Court.

8154

8154

Errol Snubs Court On Rape Charge

27h(2)

By the United Press.

MONTE CARLO, Nov. 21.—Errol Flynn's French lawyer said today the movie star will not interrupt his honeymoon to appear in court tomorrow to answer his fourth charge in eight years of raping a teen-aged girl.

11-21-50

Judge Andre Biasset, examining magistrate, said Mr. Flynn's refusal could result in his being declared a fugitive from justice. The judge said Mr. Flynn also faced the possibility of being extradited from France, where he is now. He added he would inform American diplomatic authorities of the case.

New York

Danielle Dervin, 16, a perfume salesgirl, charges Mr. Flynn raped her a year ago aboard the same yacht on which he is honeymooning at Cannes with actress Patrice Wymore, his third wife. Miss Dervin said she hopes he is sent to prison for 20 years.

The actor has been ordered by medieval Monegasque law to meet Miss Dervin face-to-face without lawyers in Judge Biasset's chambers at a closed hearing tomorrow. Mr. Flynn denies raping Miss Dervin. On the basis of the opposing statements the judge was to have decided whether the evidence warranted a formal charge and trial.

Errol Is Accused Of Assaulting Girl

27h(2)

Post-Herald

Summons Served On His Wedding Day

Thurs. 11-2-50

MONACO, Nov. 1 (U.P.)—Hollywood Actor Errol Flynn faces trial here on charges of raping a 15-year-old French girl aboard his yacht, a civil judge said today.

He said a summons was served on the handsome screen hero the day he married Patrice Wymore here, although the alleged crime occurred some time earlier.

The charge alleges that Flynn was attracted to young Danielle Darvin when he saw her in a bathing suit on a Monaco beach last year, and that he later raped her aboard his yacht Zaca.

Flynn, now honeymooning aboard the Zaca with his new wife, denied the charge and denounced it as "blackmail."

27h(2) 1950 Florida

8155

Ex-Convict Slays Woman, Shoots At Aunt, Rapes Girl

27h(2)

WILLISTON, FLA., July 4—(AP)—A former convict killed a 75-year-old woman, shot at his aunt, then kidnaped a telephone operator and raped her Monday night.

W. T. 7-5-50

State attorney T. E. Duncan identified the man as Charles Rogers, 21. He had been out of state's prison barely two months after serving five years on auto theft charges.

The slain woman was Mrs. Gertrude Hammond Baxley. She was shot in the back of the head with a rifle.

Montgomery Adv.

Duncan said Rogers was charged with murder, rape and kidnaping. He said Rogers told him this story:

Rogers had been living with an aunt, Mrs. Ruby Horne, 45, and her husband since being released from prison. He began drinking Monday and went with Mrs. Horne to visit Mrs. Baxley.

Both scolded him for his actions. He went home and brooded. He drank some more.

He got a .22 calibre rifle and returned to the Baxley home. He shot Mrs. Baxley but his aunt fell and he missed her. She then fled from the house and he shot at her and missed again.

He went home, ate supper, got a shotgun and went by the telephone company. There he saw an operator. He forced her to the rear of the building where he raped her.

Chief of Police T. L. Wiggins said Rogers held the operator as a hostage more than an hour behind the building.

Meanwhile a posse had been formed. Chief of Police T. L. Wiggins said a member of the posse, Pete Smith, first saw Rogers back of the telephone company. He said Rogers turned as if to fire, and that Smith shot him in the shoulder.

Sheriff G. T. Robbins then caught Rogers and rushed him to the undisclosed jail.

27h(2) 1950 Georgia

8156

8156

irl, 14, Beaten By White Convict n Rape Attempt

WRENS, Ga. — (ANP) — A 4-year-old high school girl, victim f a rape attempt, lies in Jeffer on hospitatl in Louisville in a ery critical condition, after suffering a cruel and inhumane beating from the hands of her assailant, a white convict, here last week. The convict, Pete Coleman, 30, has been arrested by the Jefferson county sheriff.

he girl wasT attacked on her way to catch a school bus. She was found by Ed Caroll lying in some high grass just off the Louisville-Matthews road about 15 hours after the attack.

Taken to the hospital in an unconscious state, examination revealed that the entire left side of her skull was crushed and fragments of the bone had been driven into the brain. Doctors estimated she had been struck with a blunt instrument 20 or 25 times.

Coleman, serving a life sentence for the murder of a Chatham county woman in 1947, was driving a road scraper behind Capt. B. L. Tingle's truck. Tingle, in charge of the corrections campus, was moving the two pieces of equipment to Matthews, Ga. The captain reached Matthews and waited for Coleman to catch up.

Police discovered [illegible] where the scraper had stopped. A white grocery store operator, about 300 yards from the scene of the assault, said he saw the scraper go by. Two women were passing the spot at night heard a groaning from the side of the road. A car passing by turned its headlights on the roadside.

"She was lying there on the damp, blood-soaked ground, with her school books scattered around her," the grocer said. "Her clothes were torn."

Bay Rum Binge Led to Attack, Garland Says

Constitution
Jnl. 2-25-50
Atlanta, Ga.

Edgar Frank Hamby, 23-year-old Atlanta painter, has admitted assaulting a young Stockbridge housewife as the climax to a shaving-lotion binge, Sol. Gen. Gen. Benjamin Garland, of the Flint Judicial Circuit, said yesterday.

27h(2)

Hamby voluntarily gave Atlanta detectives an account of the assault after he was identified in the police line-up by his victim, according to Garland. Officers recovered a shaving-lotion bottle near the Stockbridge city limits, where the assault allegedly occurred, and Hamby is held in Fulton Tower for safekeeping.

Woman's Suit Charges Salesman With Attack

Constitution

Housewife Demands $50,000 Of Chicago Magazine Agency

3-18-50
Atlanta, Ga.

By MARJORY SMITH

A Chamblee housewife who claims a magazine salesman attempted to attack her in her home after she refused to subscribe to his periodicals is seeking $50,000 damages from the Periodical Sales Company, of Chicago.

The housewife, in a civil suit transferred from DeKalb Superior Court to U. S. District Court here, charges the Company "should have known by exercise of ordinary care the idiosyncracies of its agent and his lustful nature and tendencies."

The suit names the agent as Bill Waters.

Waters, according to the suit, attempted to solicit magazine subscriptions from the plaintiff and her husband at their Chamblee residence Jan. 31.

He was told by the husband, the petition relates, that they were not in the market and ordered to leave.

After the husband had gone to work, the suit states, Waters returned, "stuck his foot inside the door, forced his way into the living room and said he had returned to sell some magazines."

The wife reiterated that she was not in the market, she states in the suit, told the agent to leave, and went into the kitchen where she had been cooking.

She said Waters followed her into the kitchen and forced her against her kitchen sink, injuring her hip. She struggled free, she related, and started back into the living room, whereupon the magazine salesman forced her into her bedroom, threw her down upon the bed, and attempted to assault her criminally.

27h(2)

She said her screams for help frightened Waters and he fled.

The Chamblee housewife charges the "wanton attack scared her, made her highly nervous and left her in a state of severe shock." Since that date, the suit states, she has been "hysterical, constantly in tears, and ill at ease when left alone in the house."

She said in the suit she learned from other women in the neighborhood that "said agent was in the general habit of attempting to take advantage of innocent women . . . and exhibited his lustful passion by lustful remarks to another woman while in the business of selling magazine subscriptions."

The suit was filed by Atty. William C. Rimmer, Jr.

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2 Atlanta Girls Kidnaped, 1 Raped

Post-Herald
Mon. 5-22-50
Birmingham

ATLANTA, May 21 (AP)—Two small girls on their way to Sunday school were kidnaped today and one of them—a 10-yearlold—was raped.

Atlanta Detectives J. M. Pack and J. W. Wellington said the girls described their abductor as a "dark curly-haired" white man in a "[illegible]" automobile. The other girl was 7 years old.

Waitress Tells Of Abduction And Assault

Constitution
Jnl. 9-16-50
Atlanta, Ga.

Detectives are investigating a complaint by a 21-year-old Atlanta waitress that she was forced into an automobile by two youthful white men, beaten and raped.

The two men drove up to a trolley stop at Glenwood Avenue and Chandler Road and asked if that were the end of the line, she related. She answered "yes."

One of the men pretended not to hear and leaped out of the car to ask again, she said. She said the man grabbed her, forced her into the car, placed his hand over her mouth and instructed the driver: "Let's go."

The abductors sang and cursed while driving to a secluded section on the outskirts of Atlanta, she related. She said both slapped her when she begged to be let out of the car.

Each man in turn held her while the other committed an assault, she told Dets. J. M. Pack and J. W. Ellington. She said she was forced into the car at 9:30 p. m. Thursday and was thrown out of the machine at 2 a. m. Friday near Bolton.

Made to Disrobe, Girl Charges; Asks $25,000

27 h (2) Ga

MACON, Ga.—Two white men are facing charges of assault and battery and damage suits growing out of a 16-year-old colored girl's claim that they forced her to undress in their store here when she went to pay a bill.

Miss Evelyn Hansford, 16, of 1548 Gustine Avenue, filed a $25,000 damage suit in Bibb Superior Court last Friday against Askins Stores, Inc., Frank Mantell, store manager, and Thomas E. Barberito, a clerk.

She claimed in the suit, filed through her father, Ogden Hansford as next friend, that the two men forced her to remove her clothing in a back room of the store.

Courier

SECOND SUIT FILED

The following day, Miss Ollie Thomas, another young colored woman, filed a damage suit in the same court for $5,000 against Askins, Inc., and Mantell. She claimed Mantell, had threatened and abused her when she went to the store to make a payment on a bill.

Sat. 11-18-50

Meanwhile, Martell and Barberito were free under $500 bond each on charges of assault and battery in connection with an alleged attack on Miss Hansford, Chief Deputy J. P. Massey said. City Court Solicitor Oscar L. Long authorized the warrants against the two white men, Massey said, after an investigation by Macon City detectives.

Pittsburgh Pa.

USED PHYSICAL FORCE

Miss Hansford claimed in her suit that she went to the store on Oct. 31, to make a payment on some clothing she had bought there. When she offered a $1 payment, Mantell and Barberito demanded the entire amount of $27 which she owed for the clothing, the suit said.

When Miss Hansford told them she had only $1, they claimed she had money scereted in her clothing, grabbed her blouse and tried to tear it from her body, the suit claimed.

The men took her to the back room of the store, pulled her blouse open and threatened physical violence unless she took off her clothing.

ASSAULTED WITH HANDS

The men threatened to keep her a prisoner in the store unless she took her clothing off so it could be searched, the girl said in the suit. When she finally took off her clothing the men assaulter her with their hands and "laughed with great glee over her predictment," the suit said.

Miss Hansford said she was embarrassed, humiliated, and her feelings wounded, causing her to go into hysterics and suffer physical and mental pain and anguish, according to the suit.

She said she was finally permitted to leave the store at about 7 P. M., and she went and told her uncle. He advised her to take the story to city police.

CHARGE DENIED

City Detectives J. Ralph Branan, John I. Beck, Ben Ong and R. S. Aaron investigated the case. They said Mantell and Barberito denied that they made the girl disrobe, but they were nevertheless delivered to the Bibb County Sheriff's office under $500 bond each on the assault and battery charges.

The detectives said Mantell signed a statement denying he saw the girl undress or made her undress. Barberito made a brief statement in which he simply said he never put his hands on a customer in the store.

The detectives said they had reports of other complaints from customers about employes of the store taking their money.

OFFERED PARTIAL PAYMENT

Miss Thomas said she went into the store to make a small payment on her bill, but that she was told by Mantell that she must pay the entire bill. She said she explained to him that she owed other bills and was trying to pay something on all of them.

Mantell insisted, however, holding and squeezing the girl's arm. She claimed he said to her: "Don't you get smart with me, you damn black n— — —."

Finally, in great fear, she simply handed Mantell all the money she had, Miss Thomas said. He took $11.88 and returned the rest to her. Then he made her wait for a receipt and ordered her to leave the store. He said he didn't want her or any member of her family to ever come into the store against.

Miss Hansford is represented in her suit by Atty. E. F. Taylor. Miss Thomas is represented by the law firm of Morgan and Gostin.

27h(2) 1950

Georgia

8157

Sex Criminals in Georgia

Constitution

In as frank and courageous an editorial as Georgia has seen in many a year, the Gainesville Daily Times brings this State's need for more stringent laws for sex offenders down to cases. Or rather, to a case.

It cites, by name, a Gainesville resident who last week was sentenced to 12 months—the maximum sentence in Georgia—upon conviction on "Peeping Tom" charges.

Wed. 2-1-50

27h(2)

Since 1943, according to the Times, this man has been in jail, on bond awaiting trial, or involved in a new case!

Three times in one year, 1944, he was arrested on "Peeping Tom" charges!

Ga

In October, 1946, shortly after he was released on the last of the above charges, he was arrested—and subsequently convicted—on a charge of assault with intent to rape. Nevertheless, he was released in less than a year.

Atlanta

"So here," concludes the Times, "we have in our community the case of —— ——, habitual criminal, a man liable to commit a dangerous crime, obviously a person with mental illness and possible derangement.

Ga

"Georgia has no habitual criminal law which would enable a judge, within discretion, to keep —— —— away from society forever, or for a long time, anyway. Neither is there a law providing for a complete mental examination for —— —— and incarceration in an institution where he could receive psychiatric help.

"In most States, furthermore, habitual criminal charges can be placed only after a person commits a series of felonies, so if Georgia had even the common type of habitual criminal law it would not apply in —— ——'s case.

"It's bad enough having one —— —— in the community. But that's not the major worry. How many other similar cases do we have all over Georgia and ...tion, cases which threaten the welfare of everyone and which are not covered by law and cannot be handled even by the strictest judge and the most conscientious policeman?

"At one time, in the 1947 case, —— —— nearly committed a terrible deed, one which would have stained the memory of this community for years and blighted one of its families forever. Judging by his subsequent record, the likelihood that his career will continue along present paths is almost certain."

The tragic part of all this is that there is buried, in committee in the Georgia State Legislature, a bill which in other States has proved effective in curbing such sex offenders.

Hundreds of known sexual psychopaths, all of them potentially dangerous of the most heinous of crimes, will continue to molest innocent children in Georgia in the months ahead merely because the General Assembly doesn't have the courage to consider anything even mildly controversial with an election coming up.

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2 Rape Suspects Held in Cobb

Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution

MARIETTA—Chief of Police John Lee announced the arrest of Bill Jones, of Hiram, and Earl White, of Marietta, on charges of having raped a 16-year-old Marietta girl following a "wild auto ride" the night of March 31.

27h(2)

Chief Lee said the victim reported each of the two men raped her and that she was later thrown from their automobile on a road between Austell and Mableton.

Ga

White, who was arrested in Cleveland, Ohio, said he would plead innocent when the case is called for trial in Cobb Superior Court.

Fri. 4-14-50

The girl was hospitalized at Marietta following the alleged ordeal, according to police.

Youth Held In Henry Attack Case

Constitution

Thurs. 2-23-50

By KEELER McCARTNEY

Edgar Frank Hamby, 23-year-old painter, is being held in the Henry County Jail at McDonough in connection with a brutal attack upon a Stockbridge housewife, Henry County Sheriff E. Q. Owens said.

Atlanta

The 30-year-old woman sustained severe bruises in the four-hour ordeal within a few yards of the Stockbridge city limits, Owens said. He described the attack as one of the worst he has had reported. He said Hamby had been charged with criminal assault.

27h(2)

The arrest of Hamby yesterday at Cumming climaxed 96 hours of investigation by Sheriff Owens and GBI Agent W. P. Holly. The search led to Atlanta Tuesday and eventually to Cumming.

Ga

The woman, employee of an Atlanta manufacturing concern, was to have met her husband Sunday at the Atlanta Bus Station, Sheriff Owens related. When the husband did not appear, she got the bus for Stockbridge.

A man riding the bus immediately ahead of the one she occupied walked a short way ahead of the woman after she left the bus at the edge of Stockbridge, the Sheriff said. When she walked past the street light near the bus station the man seized her, the Sheriff reported.

The man dragged her over an embankment on the right side of the road and attempted to assault her, Owens continued. Unsuccessful there, he dragged her back across the road and over an embankment on the other side.

As the woman struggled, Owens said the man forced her on through a sage brush field. After an assault there, Owens said the man knocked her unconscious.

Suspect Rapes, Infects Child Four Years Old

27h(2)

Daily Worker, Ga.

A 4-year-old girl was treated at Grady Hospital for bruises and infection from a rape attack three weeks ago by a 24-year-old man, police revealed Monday.

The rape was reported by the child's mother who said she discovered something was wrong with the tot and carried her to the hospital to be examined.

Tues. 4-11-50

A Grady physician said there was evidence that the girl had been assaulted and infected.

Detectives R. E. Little and H. E. Burdette said the suspect is known by the child's mother but his name is being withheld, pending an investigation and arrest.

Atlanta, Ga.

The child told her mother that she was attacked at their Northeast Auburn Avenue residence.

10-Year-Old Girl Victim Of Criminal Assault

Worker

ATLANTA, May 22—(AP)—A 10-year-old girl was raped by a "dark curly-haired" white man who kidnaped her and a 7-year-old companion while they were walking to Sunday School.

Mon. 5-22-50

The girls told Detectives J. M. Pack and J. W. Ellington the man forced them into his "dirty" automobile at the point of a knife.

27h(2)

The detectives said the man drove the girls to a rural area 20 miles south of Atlanta and ordered the younger to "get in the back seat and don't look."

Atlanta, Ga.

He then raped the older girl, drove back to Atlanta and put the children out. They walked home.

The officers said they found evidence on a dirt road to back up the girls' account.

The 10-year-old child was treated for lacerations at Grady Memorial Hospital, where doctors said there was "no doubt" she had been raped.

3 Men Jailed After Assault On Negro Girl

Constitution

ROME—Three white men are being held in City Jail on charges of raping a 12-year-old Negro girl.

Det. Oscar Williams, who investigated, said evidence indicates each of the three men assaulted the girl in turn, as two held her.

The child, the detective said, was set upon in a wooded area of the city while on an errand for her mother to "fetch a pail of water" from Reece's spring.

27h(2)

Two women companions of the three men witnessed the ordeal, Williams said the evidence indicated. He added that the party of white people was sitting in a car when the girl approached.

Constitution State News Service

"This is one of the worst sex crimes I have encountered in my entire career," Williams said.

Atlanta, Ga.

The three men, each charged with rape, were listed by Williams as James Elders, 24, of Rockmart; Louie Byars, 20, of Rome, and Gerald Hicks, 23, of Dallas.

Williams said the men were arrested on warrants sworn out by the mother of the victim, adding:

"The crime also was reported to us and when we arrived at the scene the men and women fled, leaving the girl naked in the wooded area. She was burised from rough handling."

Williams said the crime occurred at dusk Monday.

Special Grand Jury Is Called In 'Rape' Case Thursday

ROME, GA., April 6—(AP)—A special grand jury was summoned Thursday to consider charges against three white men accused of raping a 13-year-old Negro girl.

27h(2)

Superior Court Judge H. E. Nichols ordered the jury to meet April 17. He said he wanted the case investigated thoroughly.

Bond has not yet been set for the three men, James Marion Elder, 26; Louie Byars, 20, and Gerald David Hicks, 24. Nichols said they had not made any request for a hearing.

City Detective Oscar Williams quoted the girl as saying she was raped by each of the men, as two white women companions of the men looked on.

Georgia law prohibits the publication of the name of rape victims.

GI Held In Rape of Macon Girl

Constitution

June 15-50

Atlanta, Ga.

MACON, June 14—(AP)—A nine-year-old girl was raped in a wooded area not far from the Warner Robins area and police said Wednesday an Air Force sergeant is being held for the crime.

Officer J L. Keene, member of the Warner Robins police department, listed the man as S/Sgt. Charles M. Millican. Sgt. Millican is attached to Headquarters Squadron, 14th Air Force at Robins Air Force Base.

27h(2)

Keene said the soldier has been turned over to the sheriff in Houston County and is in jail in Perry, charged with rape.

Ga.

The policeman said the soldier was an acquaintance of the girl's family and had stopped at the place where the mother worked.

The little girl wanted to go home, the officer said, and the soldier offered to drive her, but instead headed for a wooded area. Keene said the soldier took the girl back to town, where she was taken home by a taxi driver.

Once home, Keen said, the father immediately carried her to a doctor's office and swore out a warrant for the sergeant's arrest. Keene said the arrest was made and the soldier turned over to Houston County officers.

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2 Small Girls Kidnaped, One Is Assaulted

27h(2)

The State

Atlanta, May 21 — (AP) — Two small girls on their way to Sunday school were kidnaped today and one of them—a 10-year-old—was criminally assaulted.

Atlanta Detectives J. M. Pack and J. W. Ellington, said the girls described their abductor as a "dark curly-haired" white man in a "dirty automobile." The other girl was seven years old.

The children said they were forced into the car at the point of a knife. They told police the man drove them to a rural area 20 miles south of Atlanta where the criminal assault occurred. The detectives said they found evidence on a dirt road there to substantiate the story.

Physicians at Grady Memorial hospital said there was no doubt the older child was criminally assaulted. She was treated for painful lacerations.

The children said when their abductor stopped the car, he told the younger to "get in the back seat and don't look." After the attack, he drove them back to Atlanta and put them out. Thev walked home.

5-22-50

Girl, 10, Is Assaulted After Abduction of Two

Constitution

27h(2) Ga.

By HOWELL JONES

Kidnaped as they walked toward their Sunday school class, two small girls yesterday were taken for a "terror" ride to Ellenwood where one of the children was criminally assaulted.

Police said the girls, one of them 10 and the other 7, returned to their homes about 1:30 p. m., weary from a long walk from Grant Park where their abductor made them get out of the car.

The children told their parents and police a harrowing experience with a "dark curly-haired man" who, they said, forced them into his "dirty" automobile at the point of a knife.

Atlanta, Ga.

The 10-year-old girl was treated at Grady Hospital for painful injuries. Grady Hospital physicians said there was no doubt the child had been attacked.

Dets. J. M. Pack and J. W. Ellington said the children told of being accosted by a white man as they walked toward their church about 9:30 a. m. The man told them to get into the car and brandished a knife when the girls refused.

The police quoted the children as saying the man drove out Capitol Avenue, S. E.-S. W. to Grant Park, then on to the Federal Prison. From there he drove down Highway 42 to Ellenwood in Clayton County and turned off into a dirt road. After driving about two miles down the unimproved road, the account continued, the man turned the car around, drove back about a quarter mile, then stopped his car.

Pack and Ellington said the man ordered the seven-year-old child to "get into the back seat and don't look."

After assaulting the oldest child, the man brought the two back to Grant Park and ordered them out of the car, police were told.

Pack and Ellington said an investigation at the scene of the crime produced sufficient evidence to substantiate the children's story.

Meanwhile, Fulton County police reported an attempt assault on a 12-year-old Woodstock girl near Sandy Plains, north of Atlanta. Complete details of the alleged attack were not immediately available but Fulton detectives said the attempted assault took place near Ebenezer Church.

27h(2) 1950

GERMANY

8158

Soldier Held In Rape-Slaying Attempts Suicide

27 h (2)

Courier-Journal

Bremerhaven, Germany, June 12 (AP)—An American soldier arrested in connection with the rape-murder of a German woman lay in serious condition tonight from repeated attempts to kill himself, the Army officially reported.

Tues 6-13-50

The statement said Cpl. Raymond M. Dean, 23, Dayton, Ohio cut his wrists with a razor blade slashed one arm with a piece of glass, and attempted to hang himself Friday shortly before his arrest.

Louisville Ky.

Formal charges have not yet been filed.

The strippled and battered body of the victims, Ilse Jachimsky, 36, daughter of the director of the Bremerhaven Zoo, was found Wednesdav near here.

27h(2) 1950 Illinois

8159

Two Kidnapers Rape Mother Before Child

Courier Journal

Greencastle Pair Held In Attica Abduction

Tues. 8-29-50

Danville, Ill., Aug. 28 (AP) — Two Greencastle, Ind., men were arrested on federal kidnaping charges today after a young housewife told of being abducted and raped in the presence of her daughter.

Donald Wayne Rowings, 19, and Robert James, 23, Greencastle Route 1, were arrested by Champaign, Ill., police at noon today. They had been the object of a wide search by Illinois and Indiana State police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Headed Across Line

Ray Foreman, assistant United States district attorney, identified the abduction victim as Mrs. Jane Wethington, 23, Attica, Ind. She and her husband were friends of Rowings and James. The prosecutor said Mrs. Wethington gave this account:

27h(2)

The two men came to the Wethington home early yesterday for a visit. When she said she had to do some shopping, they volunteered to drive her to the store. Her 4-year-old daughter, Carolyn, rode along.

Instead of driving to the store, the men headed across the Illinois line.

Louisville Ky

Two Men Fled

Near Marshall, Ill., both men raped her under threats of harming her and Carolyn. Mrs. Wethington collapsed from hysteria. When she revived, she found they were nearing Danville, Ill.

At Danville, the men put Mrs. Wethington and the girl out of the car and fled. She notified her husband and took a bus home.

Meanwhile, he had reported her missing to police and a search was begun. When authorities learned she had been taken across a state line, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was asked to take jurisdiction.

ADMITS RAPING GIRL, 13, WHILE WIFE SAT IN CAR

Galesburg, Ill., Oct. 18 (AP)—Police Chief Paul Holmes said today that Charles Miller Wagner, 34, of Galesburg told him he raped a 13 year old girl in a cornfield while his wife sat in an automobile nearby.

27h(2)

The rape occurred Aug. 5 near Knoxville. The girl and a younger brother had been picking blackberries. Holmes reported that Wagner came to the police station last night and signed a statement, confessing the rape. Wagner was held to the grand jury. The chief said the girl identified Wagner as her assailant.

He said Wagner's wife, mother of his six children, sat in his automobile parked at a roadside and was unaware of the attack. Wagner said the incident so preyed on his mind that he was compelled to surrender.

27h(2) 1950

Illinois

8160

Man Jailed 25 Years Gets Nothing

CHICAGO (ANP)—A man who spent the past 25 years in jail paying for a crime which he didn't commit has received no financial compensation for the injustice and may have to seek public assistance.

James Montgomery, 56, a World War I veteran, has been existing off the kindnes of friends and relatives for the six months that he has been freed.

Governor Does Nothing

Luis Kutner, the attorney, whose efforts obtained Montgomery's freedom, said that the Governor of Illinois has made no effort to have the State Legislature approve an appropriation for funds to help compensate the injustice.

Montgomery was jailed in 1924 for allegedly attacking a white woman, a 62-year-old peddler.

Kutner became involved in the case three years ago, and was able to prove that the jailed man had been framed. The victim of the injustice was freed by a decision handed down by U.S. District Court Judge Michael Igoe.

MARRIED MAN, 19, FREED OF RAPING BELVIDERE GIRL

Belvidere, Ill., March 31 (AP)—A jury yesterday acquitted a 19 year old married man on a charge of raping a 15 year old girl in the back seat of his car.

27h(2)

Earlier, Judge William H. Carroll directed the jury on nine men and three women to return acquittal verdicts on three other counts against James McCormick. He was tried in Boone county Circuit court.

Sat. 4-1-50

The girl had testified she had sex relations with McCormick after a party Oct. 8 which led to morals charges involving 13 men and nine teen-age girls. McCormick denied it.

In a previous trial a 34 year old man was convicted of raping a 13 year old girl. He was sentenced to five years in prison. Two other defendants have pleaded guilty; two more are in jail on violation of probation charges, and seven await trial on morals charges.

WED 2 WEEKS, DRIVER ADMITS RAPE ATTEMPTS

Robert R. Kantowski, 20, of 718 W. 58th st., a truck driver, who was married two weeks ago, was arrested by sheriff's police Saturday on the complaint of a [illegible] year old woman who said he twice attempted to rape her earlier in the day.

27h(2)

The woman said she met Kantowski, whom she knew from school days, in a tavern at 32d and Throop sts., and he offered to take her home. Instead, she said, he drove to a location she described as near Maple lake at 96th st. and Wolf rd., where the rape attempts occurred. She said she fought him off and was scratched on the neck, face, and hands when he choked her. He put her out of his truck tractor at 5745 Halsted st., she said.

The police said Kantowski admitted the rape attempts, but insisted they occurred at 79th st. and Monitor av., Stickney. He also was charged with stealing the truck tractor, which was recovered, from 730 Root st.

Accused Illinois Policeman Freed Of Rape Charge

DECATUR, Ill., May [illegible] (AP)—A jury has acquitted Frank C. Reed, 35, former park policeman, of a charge of rape.

Pauline Guffey, 17, who weighs about 105 pounds, had accused the six foot two, 250-pound Reed of raping her in a police patrol car last Nov. 23.

27h(2)

Reed, who was discharged by the park district after the girl's accusation March 31, was freed by a jury of 10 women and two men.

Miss Guffey and her fiance, Charles Mory, 21, testified at the trial that they were in an automobile on a lonely road talking of their future plans when Reed showed up.

They testified the policeman ordered Miss Guffey out of the car and told Mory to go home, saying he would take Miss Guffey home.

The girl said Reed then forced her to submit to him. Reed, testifying in his own defense, denied this.

Cleric's Bible Yields Nude Art

Daily News

27h(2)

ROCKFORD, Ill. — (UP) — Photographs of nude women were found hidden in Bibles in the chapel and Bible school of a minister charged with raping his sister-in-law while his wife slept, authorities said today.

7-13-50

Deputy sheriffs said they also found a complete set of photograpgic equipment, a bundle of "lonely heart" letters, obscene literature, a hypodermic needle and drugs which were being analyzed to determine whether they contained narcotics.

They searched the Rev. Robert J. Hansen's quarters in his lighthouse chapel and Bible school as the 42-year-old non-denominational minister appeared for a preliminary hearing.

Hansen's sister-in-law, Verna Capron, 32, accused him of raping her last July while her sister, Mrs. Mable Hansen, "slept upstairs." She charged that he was the father of her child, Gregory, born in Chicago March 31.

Miss Capron, a former navy nurse, filed the rape charge Tuesday, shortly after Mrs. Hansen filed a disorderly conduct charge against her husband.

Mrs. Hansen also filed a suit for divorce. She charged cruelty and alleged that he beat her and knocked her down.

Hansen told authorities that his wife and sister-in-law "have been doping me."

He pleaded innocent yesterday to the disorderly conduct charge and asked a change of venue of the rape charge. Both cases were continued, and another hearing on his motion for a change of venue was scheduled for later this week.

Minister Is Jailed

Daily News

ROCKFORD, Ill. — (AP) — The Rev. Robert J. Hansen, 42, was in jail today awaiting arraignment before a justice of the peace in charges of rape and disorderly conduct.

The disorderly conduct charge was made yesterday on the complaint of his wife, Mabel. Later she filed suit for divorce in circuit court, charging Hansen with cruelty.

27h(2)

A warrant charging Hansen with forcible rape was served on him in jail. Miss Verna Capron, 32, filed the complaint, charging Hansen was the father of her son, Gregory Dale, born in Chicago last March 31.

Hansen, who is pastor of the Lighthouse Chapel and Bible School in Rockford, was at one time a Winnebago county deputy sheriff and county jail chaplain.

Cleric Ordered Held On Kin's Rape Charge

Faces Second Count Of Kicking Wife

Mon. 7-31-50

ROCKFORD, Ill., July 30 (U.P.)—The Rev. Robert J. Hansen has been ordered held to the Grand Jury on charges by his sister-in-law that he raped her in the living room of the building which houses his chapel and bible school.

27h(2)

Justice of the Peace Howard Hicks, who issued the order, continued Hansen's present bond of $2500.

At the same time, Hansen, said by police to have revealed an interest of nude women and obscene literature, was ordered to appear before a police magistrate Thursday on an assault and battery charge preferred by his wife.

Denies Charge

The minister, at a preliminary hearing this week, denied the charge of Miss Verna Capron, 32, that he raped her and fathered her illegitimate child.

He also denied that he kicked his wife, Mabel, down a flight of stairs recently as charged in her assault and battery complaint. She has filed suit for divorce.

The sisters, he said, had "plotted" together to convict him of the rape charge, according to data he said he found on scraps of paper in his home, which houses the non-denominational Lighthouse Chapel and Bible School.

Pictures Found

Miss Capron, a former Navy nurse, said the alleged attack was made under threat of death on the night of July 2, 1949.

Hansen said she appeared in the living room on that night in "scanty" attire but denied raping her.

Deputy sheriffs said they found pictures of nude women among the leaves of the minister's chapel Bibles.

Also among his effects, they said, were a bundle of "lonely heart" letters, a complete set of photographic equipment and obscene literature.

2 ADMIT RAPE, ROBBERY; HELD TO GRAND JURY

Clarence Yearwood, 20, and Claude Knight, 18, roommates at 6326 Greenwood av., were held to the grand jury in $5,000 bond each by Judge Joseph J. Drucker in Boys court yesterday after they pleaded guilty to rape and robbery charges.

Chicago

A 30 year old unmarried woman who lives on the south side accused the two of forcing her into their automobile at gunpoint, raping her, and robbing her of $30.

27h(2)

A second rape charge against Knight, brought by a 25 year old housewife who said he criminally assaulted her June 28 in similar circumstances, was dropped by agreement after the guilty pleas to the other charges. The second victim said Yearwood was with Knight, but did not molest her.

RAPED DURING ALL DAY AUTO RIDE, WIFE SAYS

Tribune
Tues. 8-29-50

27h(2)

Danville, Ill., Aug. 28 [Special] —An Indiana farm wife, 23, who with her daughter, 4, was released from an automobile at a bus station here last night, told authorities she and her daughter had been kidnaped early yesterday by two men and that she had been raped repeatedly during an all day ride thru southern Illinois and Indiana.

James Poster, special agent in charge of the office of the federal bureau of investigation at Springfield, Ill., sent word here that the men named by the woman have been arrested at Champaign, Ill., and charged with violating the federal kidnaping [Lindbergh] law.

Plan to Arraign Two

Poster identified the men in custody as Donald Rowlings, 19, and Robert James, 23, who live on farms near Greencastle, Ind. He said they will be brought to Danville for arraignment.

The kidnap victim said she lives with her husband and two children on a farm near Attica, Ind. She said Rowlings and James, acquaintances of the family, arrived at the farm about 7:30 a. m. yesterday.

She said she told them she was about to drive to Attica for shopping and that they volunteered to drive her. She and her daughter entered the car with them.

The men headed for Danville instead of stopping at the store in Attica where she had expected to do her shopping, she said. Between Attica and Danville they halted near a gravel pit. She escaped from the car and ran, she said, but was overtaken and brought back to the car.

Says Daughter Threatened

She said her assailants threatened to harm her daughter unless she submitted to them.

They drove thru Danville and halted near Marshall, Ill., she said. Both men raped her here, she said. They then drove to Effingham, telling her they were bound for Texas. She was raped several more times, she said, and eventually lost consciousness. When she revived, she found they had doubled back to Danville.

MOTHER OF 2 RAPED BY GUNMAN-KIDNAPER WHO INVADES HER CAR

Tribune

27h(2)

A 28 year old housewife, mother of two children, was raped early yesterday by a gunman who forced his way into her automobile when she stopped for a traffic light at Avondale av. and Addison st.

Fri. 8-11-50

The woman told police that she had driven a friend to her home and was returning to her own apartment on N. Claremont av. when the man, about 30 years old, entered the car. He forced her to drive to a side street near 56th st. and S. Lake Shore dr. where he attacked her.

Physicians at Ravenswood hospital confirmed her story.

CAN'T BELIEVE IT, CRY PARENTS OF RAPE KILLER

27h(2)

Girl's Grandmother Says, 'Thank God It's Over'

Tribune

The news of George Lettrich Jr.'s confession of the Roberta Rinearson murder and rape came with shocking impact to his and her families yesterday.

Mon. 8-14-50

The elder Lettrich, a simple, work worn man who speaks with a Bohemian accent, declared over and over that he did not believe his son could be guilty. The elder Lettrich's wife, Pauline, echoed his faith in their son.

Mrs. Anna M. O'Donohue, 55, of 3427 McCormick av., Brookfield, Roberta's grandmother, was unaware of the confession until informed by a Tribune reporter.

"Thank God It's Over"

"Thank God it's over," she exclaimed and burst into tears. "My prayers are all answered," she said. "God be praised."

Roberta's parents were divorced, and she has made her home with her grandmother. The grandmother is a clerk in State's Atty. Boyle's office. She said she had never known law enforcement authorities to work so hard to solve a case. She said she was very grateful for the excellent police work.

Told about Lettrich's account of his struggle with the little girl, the grandmother said, "I knew she must have fought hard. She was a good girl and devout. She never would have gotten into his car unless she was strongly persuaded or forced."

"He Loved Children"

Lettrich Sr., a lion keeper in the Brookfield zoo, said his son had been a corporal in the army for two years and had served in Australia during the war.

He said the son had lived with his wife and three children in the father's little cottage at 5531 W. 24th st., Cicero.

"He loved children," said Lettrich. "I can't believe he would do anything to harm a little girl."

Mrs. Lettrich denied that she had a handkerchief marked with the lette "P." Such a handkerchief had been found beside the body of Roberta, and Lettrich Jr. had said it may have been one that he had taken from his mother's dresser.

Separated from Wife

Lettrich Jr. has separated from his wife, Susan. She is reported to be living at 512 S. Francisco av. with their son, Jerry, 14. Last June 30 she obtained a warrant for his arrest on a charge of disorderly conduct. Neighbors said Lettrich had been annoying her.

Judge Irwin Clorfene in Monroe st. court put him under a $100 peace bond and dismissed the charges.

The other Lettrich children are Stanley, 3, and Janice, 12. Janice was placed outside the family with adoptive parents.

At the time of the Rinearson murder Lttrich was employed as a truck driver at the Brookfield zoo. Robert Bean, zoo director, said Lettrich had stolen a pay check from another employe and had cashed it in a tavern. Bean said he had made restitution, but his employment was ended.

Lettrich also was arrested several years ago on a burglary charge, but the charge was reduced to a misdemeanor.

ADMITS PICKING UP GIRL, 10, AND ATTACKING HER

Tribune
Mon. 8-14-50

Stuffed Clothing In Mouth, He Says

PARENTS STUNNED

Mother and father of confessed slayer insist they can't believe it. Story on page 4.

George Lettrich Jr., 36, confessed rape slayer of Roberta Rinearson, 10, dozed fitfully in a heavily guarded, secret west suburban cell yesterday.

In his waking moments he tried to refresh his memory of the gruesome events of Dec. 17, 1948 —a date he had been trying to forget for nearly two years. He was to go with State's Atty. Boyle and police later in the evening to reënact the crime.

One such attempt to reconstruct his movements failed early yesterday when he [illegible] dazed and claimed his memory was uncertain.

Begin Tour at 4:30 a. m.

Lettrich, an unemployed punch press operator, was taken on the tour immediately after he had made a formal, four page confession in Boyle's presence at the detective bureau. It was nearly 4:30 a. m. when they left the detective bureau, and it was dawn by the time they reached the home of Lettrich's father, 5531 W. 24th st., Cicero.

His parents, George Sr., 60, and Pauline, 61, were called from bed. Mrs. Lettrich ran to her son crying, "George, George, what is it? What's the matter?"

"I killed a little girl, Mom," Lettrich said.

27h(2)

His mother collapsed in tears.

Halt Trip at Theater

Then the cavalcade of authorities, newsmen, and photografers set off to retrace Lettrich's route. The trip was abandoned at the Park theater in La Grange where Lettrich had told earlier of picking up the slender, blonde girl who looked older than her years.

In his confession, first uttered to Sgt. Edward Walsh, operator of the crime laboratory lie detector, and Police Chief Ralph White of Lyons, Lettrich had told of visiting taverns before he went to the theater on the fatal night.

There, he said, he met Roberta in the lobby and asked her if she would like to take a ride rather than see the picture. He was driving his father's automobile, he said, and drove with her to another tavern.

Tells of Advances

He said she sat in the car while he drank. When they resumed driving, he said, he made advances to her which she resisted.

Near Arlington cemetery, 2 miles east of Elmhurst, Lettrich parked the car on a lonely road. The girl tried to push him away, he said, and then opened the car door. She tripped on the door and fell in the ditch beside the car.

"She started to kick and scream," said Lettrich. "I took off her panties and stuffed them in her mouth."

He said that he attacked the child, holding her down with his arm across her chest. Told that she had been choked to death, he replied that his arm might have slipped across her throat.

"Suddenly I realized I had done something terrible," said Lettrich. "I got up and went to the car. She was still alive. She tried to sit up, but rolled over on her stomach and all fours."

Lettrich, father of three, was arrested Aug. 3 on charges of taking indecent liberties with two girls in Lyons. Later he was questioned on the lie detector about the Rinearson case.

27h(2) 1950 Indiana

8161

'Little Carl' Shelton Held On Rape-Attempt Charge

Courier-Journal

Thurs. 6-22-50

Indianapolis, Ind., June 21 (UP)—"Little Carl" Shelton, member of the famed Illinois Shelton clan which is under attack by mysterious assassins, was bound over to the County grand jury today on a charge of attempting to rape a 13-year-old girl.

Shelton was arrested last night after the girl, a student in a school for stammerers, identified his car as the one she was picked up in while on her way to Mass yesterday morning.

27h(2)

Sheriff's Investigator Elmer Graves said Shelton admitted picking up the girl, but denied attacking her.

[illegible]

Louisville

Ky.

Shelton was silent in court while Municipal Judge Alex Clark bound him to the grand jury under $10,000 bond.

The bond included $5,000 on the attempted rape charge and $5,000 on a second charge of attempting to commit an unnatural sex act with the girl.

The 26-year-old Shelton has a previous record of sex charges at Fairfield, Ill., where most of the clan members live. In the last three years ambush bullets have killed three of his uncles, two of whom were leaders of the famed bootlegging Shelton gang that terrorized Southern Illinois in the 1920's.

Shelton was charged with taking indecent liberties with an 11-year-old girl in a Fairfield theater last November, but the charge was dropped for lack of evidence. Early last year he was fined on a similar charge at Flora, Ill., north of Fairfield.

Deputies said Shelton had come here to work in a factory. His wife, Dorothy, accompanied him to court.

'Little Carl' Shelton Held On Complaint of Girl, 13

Herald Tribune

INDIANAPOLIS, June 21 (UP).—"Little Carl" Shelton, twenty-six, member of the Illinois feuding clan, was held today on a charge that he tried to attack a thirteen-year-old girl he picked up on her way to mass.

27h(2)

Thurs.

6-22-50

[illegible]

Except for a few whispers with his wife, Dorothy, Shelton was silent in court. Municipal Judge Alex Clark appointed Sam Blume as his pauper attorney after he waived a preliminary hearing.

Elmer Graves, sheriff's investigator, said Shelton admitted picking up the girl but denied attacking her.

New York

N.Y.

"Little Carl" is the nephew of Roy Shelton, who was killed in ambush at Fairfield, Ill., June 7. The uncle was the third member of the Shelton gang to be murdered. "Little Carl" was charged with taking indecent liberties with an eleven-year-old girl in a Fairfield theater in November, but the charge was dropped for lack of evidence. He was fined on a similar charge early last year.

27h(2) 1950 Iowa

8162

GRANDMOTHER RAPED, SLAIN BY STRANGLER

27h(2)

Iowa
Tribune

Find Body of Widow, 72, in Yard Near Home

Wed. 5-31-50

Clinton, Ia., May 30 [Special]—A great-grandmother was found strangled and raped today in a yard near her home. Police said they had no clues to the killer but had summoned all members of the department to help solve the city's first crime of this nature.

Chicago

The victim was Mrs. Lillian A. Chapman, 72, a widow. She lived with her widowed sister, Mrs. Pearle Abraham.

Del

Neighbors of the vicinity where her body was found this morning apparently heard her final screams and pleas for mercy to her assailant.

Tells of Cries

Mrs. Robert Fulton said she heard three times the shouted words, "O, my God, don't." She said she didn't investigate because she thought the cries came from a passing car and because she frequently heard loud talking in the heavily populated section, which is at the edge of a factory district.

Another neighbor, Mrs. Kate Sheibley, discovered the body this morning, noticing the huddled heap from a distance.

Mrs. Chapman's clothing had been disarranged. Part of her underclothing and one shoe was found a short distance from her body.

"She was definitely raped and strangled," Coroner L. O. Riggert reported. He added there was evidence of internal injuries and numerous head bruises, particularly on her jaw and nose.

False Teeth Broken

The coroner said a rope probably was used in the srtangling. No weapon was found. Investigators said the bruises could have been causde by fists or a blunt instrument. Mrs. Chapman's upper false teeth were broken.

Police hadn't learned why Mrs. Chapman was away from home last night. She was a frequent baby sitter but relatives said she wasn't working last night.

Her sister said Mrs. Chapman left their home at about 9:30 p. m. without telling where she was going or how long she would be gone.

In addition to her sister, Mrs. Chapman is survived by a son, Russell; a daughter, Mrs. Ray Gleason; one grandchild, and three great-grandchildren, all of Clinton.

SLAYING-RAPE SUSPECT SEIZED AT ROAD BLOCK

27h(2)

Tribune

Iowa

Ottumwa, Ia., Oct. 18 [Special]—Paul Allison, 40, a laborer, was arrested by state police today and brought here for questioning in connection with strangulation death of his wife, Nettit, 44, and the rape of his stepdaughter, Mrs. Thelma Wilt, 22.

Thur

10-19-50

County Atty. Sam Erhardt said the body of Mrs. Allison was found today in a closet in the Allison home here and that an autopsy disclosed "conclusive evidence of death by strangulation.

Del

Erhardt said Mrs. Wilt, who is married and lives a few blocks from the Allison home, reported Allison took her to the home at 7:30 a. m., told her he had killed her mother, and raped her on a bed a few feet from the closet in which the body was concealed.

Neighbors Saw Allison Leave

Mrs. Wilt subsequently escaped from the house and ran to neighbors who called police, Erhardt said. The neighbors saw Allison drive away in his automobile.

County authorities sent out a state-wide pickup order which resulted in a report at noon that Allison had visited a relative in Centerville, 50 miles west of here, and had started back for Ottumwa. Road blocks were set up and Allison was seized near Albia, 25 miles west of here. He surrendered without resistance. No statement from him was immediately available.

Mrs. Wilt told police she received a telephone call at her home shortly before 7 a. m. from Mrs. Allison, who informed her the Allisons planned to move today to Davenport, Ia., where Allison had obtained a job in the Rock Island arsenal.

Asks Aid in Packing

Mrs. Wilt said her mother requested her to help with the packing and told her Allison would drive to the Wilt home to pick her up. Allison arrived in his car less than 20 minutes later, Mrs. Wilt said. His actions and conversation were normal, she added, and she accompanied him to the Allison home without question.

When they entered the home he told her that her mother's body was in the closet, she said, then he added, "Shut up, or I'll kill you, too." The rape followed.

Police said investigation indicated Allison had been out most of the night, returning in time to eat breakfast. They said he threatened to kill his wife several weeks ago and that she then prevailed on him to get rid of two guns he had previously kept in the house. He had been working in a greenhouse here.

Lexingtonian Held In Attack On Girl, 6

Courier-Journal

Youth, 17, Admits Assault, Police Say

Tues. 1-3-50

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 2 (AP)—A six-yar-old girl was attacked in a vacant lot here New Year's Eve and a youth identified as a parolee from the Kentucky Houses of Reform was held on a charge of rape in connection with the case, police said yesterday.

Patrolmen William Foster and William Lewis said they arrested David Cupps, 17, Lexington, in a theater here yesterday afternoon in connection with the attack.

Louisville

The little girl was admitted to a hospital for treatment. Her condition last night was reported as satisfactory.

Ky

The police report said Cupps admitted the attack in an oral statement and later signed a similar written statement.

27h(2)

Disagree on Hour

The police report said the youth admitted assaulting the girl in a lot near the railroad tracks in West Lexington. Statements by Cupps and the child's mother, police said, disagreed as to the hour.

The case was reported yesterday afternoon a short time after the child told her mother of the attack, the report continued.

Officials at the Houses of Reform said a David Cly Cupps was admitted on Christmas Eve, 1942, at the age of 10 on request of his father who charged delinquency and truancy. Records disclosed three previous parole violations.

Central City Youth Is Arrested For Raping Girl, 11

Courier-Journal

Fri. 5-26-50

Central City, Ky., May 25 (AP)—Paul Stevenson, 20, Central City, Route 1, was arrested yesterday on a charge of raping an 11-year-old girl. The offense is said to have occurred in the Morgan Mines community of Muhlenberg County about 10 p.m. Tuesday. Stevenson denied the charge.

27h(2)

Louisville Ky

Stevenson was taken into custody by Deputy Sheriff W. E. McDonald and State Game Conservation Officer Clark Bailey.

The girl identified Stevenson as her attacker, according to Chief of Police Thomas Gossett of Central City. She told Gossett she was returning home from a show when she was attacked. The girl bore bruises and scratches about the face. She also claimed her assailant choked her.

Stevenson was taken to the Muhlenberg County Jail at Greenville. He will be arraigned before County Judge Lonnie Bryan for his examining trial tomorrow morning.

Girl, 3, Found Dead, Rape Suspected

Post-Herald

Fri. 7-14-50

Missing A Week, Body Discovered Near Bar

Birmingham

LOUISVILLE, Ky., July 13—(AP)—Joyce Joan Shouse, 3, was found dead here today, just a few yards from the tavern from which she disappeared last Friday night.

Ala.

Coroner George F. Dwyer reported a preliminary examination indicated the tiny tot had been raped and probably died on the night of her disappearance.

27h(2)

Ky

Police said the child wandered away from a bar while her mother, Mrs. Florine Shouse, 29, was drinking with a man friend.

A search before and since the finding of the body has centered on James I. Robinson, 31, former gasoline station employe. Several witnesses told of seeing the child with him.

The little girl's crumpled body was found under the loading dock of a trucking company.

Jury Fails To Agree In Attempted-Rape Trial

Courier-Journal

A Criminal Court jury failed to agree yesterday at the second trial of Gail Fisher, 37, of 1249 S. Brook, charged with attempted rape of an 8-year-old girl.

The case was reset for September 29 after jurors reported they were hung, with 11 in favor of convicting Fisher for assault and battery, a charge included in the attempted-rape indictment, and with one holding out for acquittal.

Fri. 6-16-50

27h(2)

Was Fined $25

A mistrial was ordered in the case May 3 when the child's mother testified the offense occurred before December, the time stated in the indictment.

Louisville

The grand jury indicted Fisher in March after hearing a complaint about action on the case in Police Court where the charge was amended to disorderly conduct and Fisher was fined $25. Conviction for attempted rape of a child under 12 carries a penalty of five to 20 years in prison.

Ky

In his plea for conviction, Harry Poynter, assistant Commonwealth's attorney, said strong jury action was needed to check sex crimes.

Given 2-Year Sentence

"There have been 12 sex crimes involving 15 defendants before Criminal Court since June 1," he said. "That's one defendant for each day so far this month."

In another cases, Hilary Hobbs, 33, of 1845 Frankfort, received a two-year prison sentence after pleading guilty to writing a worthless check for $150 on the Royal Industrial Bank February 6.

James Hansford, 43, Negro, of 706-C Merchant Court, a bellboy at the Earle Hotel, was given a $25 fine after appealing a 10-day Workhouse sentence given him in a disorderly conduct case May 25 in Police Court. William H. Harvin, of the Commonwealth attorney's staff, explained a white Air Force lieutenant colonel and his wife had received Police Court fines in the same case, the man for disorderly conduct and the woman on a drunk charge.

Robert Jackson, 43, of 2817 Rowan, received a $40 fine on appealing a 60-day sentence for drunkenness given April 15 in Police Court. Harvin pointed out there is a 50-day statutory limit on sentences in such cases. Jackson had been in jail 18 days before his Police Court trial.

BABY FOUND DEAD, SUSPECT HUNTED

Times-Picayune

Probably Died Night She Vanished, Says Official

Fri. 7-14-50

(The Associated Press)

Louisville, Ky., July 13—Three-year-old Joyce Joan Shouse was found dead here Thursday, just a few yards from the tavern from which she disappeared last Friday night.

New Orleans La.

Coroner George F. Dwyer reported a preliminary examination indicated the tiny tot had been raped and probably died on the night of her disappearance or a few hours thereafter. An autopsy was to be performed later.

27h(2)

Ky

Police said the child wandered away from the bar of the Capitol hotel in Louisville's near east side, while her mother, Mrs. Florine Shouse, 29, was drinking with a man friend. Mrs. Shouse had been separated from her husband for about a year.

A search before and since the finding of the body has centered on James I. Robinson, 31, former gasoline station employe. Several wintesses told of seeing the child with him Friday night.

Louisville detectives late Thursday went to Sellersburg, Ind., where deputy sheriff John Engel reported residents of the area saw a man resembling Robinson's description walking along a highway in the direction of Louisville. Engel said a cook in a roadside restaurant also said he saw a man of similar description walking north last Saturday or Monday.

The little girl's crumpled body was found under the loading dock of the Eklar-Moore Trucking Company, across the alley from the Capitol hotel. The body bore cuts and bruises.

After the girl's disappearance was reported Friday night, police suspected kidnaping. Notices and pictures were sent to every county in Kentucky and to many states. A detachment of 28 policemen made a house-to-house canvass of 80 blocks.

Man Accused Of Rape Faces New Charge

Courier-Journal

A man was accused in Municipal Court yesterday of pressing his attentions on a woman after he had been charged with raping her.

Louisville

Prosecutor John Dougherty said it appeared the man's purpose was to beat the rape charge pending against him in Criminal Court.

Ky

27h(2)

The matter came to light at the calling of vagrancy and prostitution charges against Louis Pitts, 25, of 117 E. Breckinridge, and a 23-year-old unmarried woman living in the 800 block of South Fourth.

Sat. 9-30-50

Arrested In Hotel Room

Pitts, arrested with the woman in a hotel room Sunday, was charged in June with raping her and was indicted.

Dougherty said he remembered the rape case "as one of the worst I have heard."

The woman told Dougherty yesterday that Pitts had tricked her into accompanying him to rooms several times in recent weeks. She said he had used threats.

At Dougherty's request, acting Judge Charles A. Walter continued the cases until October 17, a day after the rape case against Pitts is scheduled for trial in Criminal Court.

Widow, Girl Report Rapes

27h(2)

A 56-year-old widow and a 17-year-old waitress reported to police they were raped early yesterday.

Courier-Journal

The widow said a man, about 30, grabbed her at 5:45 a.m. as she walked on Algonquin Parkway near 13th. He forced her into a vacant lot and attacked her, she said. The man also took her watch, valued at $30, and her purse containing a small amount of change.

Ky

Mon.

The waitress told police a man about 24 years old offered to walk home with her after she quit work shortly after midnight at a downtown drugstore. The attack occurred on First near River Road, she said. She was treated at General Hospital.

9-11-50

Louisville

All-Male Jury Fails To Agree In Rape Case

New Trial Is Set Dec. 18 for W. R. Keys

12.8.50

An all-male Criminal Court jury was unable to return a verdict yesterday in the trial of William R. Keys, 33, for the rape of a 25-year-old white divorcee last February.

The jury returned to its box after 1½ hours and announced it was hopelessly deadlocked. Ten jurors were for acquittal, it was learned.

Keys, 1049 S. Eighth, denied the charge. He said he couldn't remember exactly what he was doing the night of February 9-10 when the attack occurred, but that he always went straight home from his bakery job at quitting time—9 p.m.

Key

Identified In Line-up

The victim, mother of an 8-year-old son, said the attack occurred about 1:30 a.m. in an alley near 12th and Oak as she was walking to a bus from her night job as pastry worker in a bakery.

She said a Negro forced her into the alley, and, threatening her with a knife, forced her to kiss him, then assaulted her.

She identified Keys as that man in a police line-up November 22, she said.

Keys wife said he never came home late from work and that he stayed home nights. His employer testified as to his good character.

Judge L. R. Curtis set a new trial for December 18.

27h(2) 1950 Louisiana

8164

Alleged Rapist Gets New Trial

Eunice

7-14-50

27h(2)

BATON ROUGE, La.—The Louisiana Supreme Court last Monday granted a new trial to Edward (W. T.) Honeycutt, who saved himself from lynching by jumping into a river to escape a mob.

Honeycutt, convicted and sentenced to death for the alleged aggravated rape of a Eunice, La., white woman Dec. 1, 1948, won a new trial because the state failed to offer rebuttal testimony against defense charges that the prisoner had been beaten and threatened to extort a confession.

Held at Gunpoint As Deputy Sheriff, Hubby Sit in Auto

27h ~~(2) La~~

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU
(Courier Louisiana Bureau)

NEW ORLEANS—Shocked, outraged and humiliated, a 28-year-old local Army veteran of World War II, has related to the New Orleans NAACP, the revolting story of his arrest Sunday night, June 25, while visiting his native LaFourche Parish where he says a deputy sheriff's white companion held ihs 22-year-old wife at gunpoint and raped her in the presence of their two small children.

The veteran and his wife, whose names are withheld, signed affidavits June 28 naming the deputy sheriff in the New Orleans office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

FBI TO PROBE

FBI agents told the NAACP that the case would come under their jurisdiction if an officer of the law, acting in that capacity, was involved in deprivng the veteran of the opportunity to protect his wife. If all civilians were involved, agents said, the case should be handled by Louisiana authorities.

However, the veteran, who was born and reared near Raceland, La., where the crime was committed, told agents he was sure that at least one of the men was a deputy sheriff.

"The man who placed me under arrest was a deputy sheriff," the veteran declared. "I know him well because I used to work for him when I was a small boy and since leaving LaFourche Parish, I have visited my people there regularly."

ARRESTED FOR SPEEDING

In his full statement to the NAACP and to the FBI he said:

"Sunday, June 25, about 10:20 P. M., en route from New Orleans to Lewistown, near Raceland, La., to attend a wake, I was driving about 40 miles an hour in a 60-mile speed zone with my wife and two children, aged 3 years old and 4 months old.

"About two miles from the city limits of Raceland, a deputy sheriff stopped me and asked for my driver's license and told me I was speeding. I showed him my license and other identification. In the deputy sheriff's car was a white man. The deputy sheriff told me that he would have to arrest me for speeding. He then told me to drive my car ahead and he would trail me.

FORCED FROM AUTO

"Upon reaching the Robicheauxs' garage in Raceland, the deputy sheriff pulled his car in front of mine and told me to pull to the side of the garage between two parked cars. The garage was closed and it was very dark there. The deputy sheriff and the man got out of their car and came over to mine.

"The deputy sheriff asked me for my draft registration card. I gave it to him. He told me he would have to arrest me for speeding. I asked him if I could take my wife and children to the bus station so that they might return to New Orleans.

"LET HIM GO"

"The deputy sheriff told me 'No,' saying that my wife and children would have to stay there. He ordered me to get out of my car and come over to his car with him. The other man walked over to my car.

"A short while later, I heard my wife say, 'Please don't, Mister; I have a little baby who is only four months old.

"After sitting with the deputy sheriff in his car for about twenty minutes, I saw the white man coming from my car towards us. He told the deputy sheriff, 'That's all right, let him go. Tell him not to drive fast any more.'

"The deputy sheriff told me I could go, but not to drive fast. I went back to my car and found my wife crying. I asked her what was the matter and she told me that the man had drawn a gun on her and forced her to have sexual intercourse with him."

TELLS OF ATTACK

The wife, a 22-year-old native and resident of New Orleans, told the NAACP and the FBI a sordid story which tallied in detail with that of her husband.

She said, "When the deputy sheriff ordered my husband to get in his car and the other man walked over to me, I reached in the back of the car to get my baby who was in his bassinet, because I was going to see what they were going to do with my husband.

"This white man drew a gun on me and told me to put the baby back. I put the baby back and he told me what he intended to do. I told him, 'Mister, I have a little baby who is only four months old.' He told me he would kill me if I ddin't do as he wished.

"I pleaded with him . . . but he began struggling with me to make me undress. I put up a fight but he tore my clothing off, and kept threatening to shoot me . . . He overpowered me and I was afraid he would kill me.

"When he finished his act, he told me that my husband and I coudl continue to Lewistown.

"I went to the Charity Hospital in New Orleans Monday, June 26, and was examined by Dr. N. J. Olivier."

"WHAT DID HE DO?"

Continuing his story, the outraged husband told of stopping en route to New Orleans the following morning at Abraham's Service Station, just on the edge of Raceland, to ask the attendant if he knew the name of the man who was riding with the deputy sheriff that Sunday night.

"He told me he didn't know the man's name, then asked, 'What did he do you?' I told him 'Nothing, I just want to know his name,'" the veteran declared.

Raceland, located in Southwest Louisiana, has a reputation for being hostile to Negroes. Rarely, if ever, are Negroes seen on its main street or along the highway. Several located near the town, Tuesday, appeared to be terror-stricken and told NAACP representatives they know absolutely nothing about anything that happened that Sunday night.

BURGLAR ATTACKS 13-YEAR-OLD GIRL

Captured, Signs Confession, Say Police

20-50

A 13-year-old baby sitter was terrorized for about two hours and raped by a knife-wielding man who had broken into a residence at 5565 Woodlawn late Saturday, Sixth Precinct police reported Sunday.

27h(2)

Police said the girl, whose assailant was captured, bore scratches on her face and neck received when the man, a Negro, threatened her with the knife.

It was two hours before the hysterical girl recovered sufficiently to describe the assailant. But meanwhile police sealed off the Lakeview area, augmenting regular squad cars with about a dozen detectives and police cars.

The girl's alleged assailant, Walter Bentley, 28, 2013 Marigny, was captured about 5:30 a. m. when he emerged from some weeds at Marconi dr. and the lakefront and was seen by detectives in a prowl car. He was booked with aggravated rape.

Police said Bentley told them he cut the screen window to the house to enter and "get me some money." He said he was surprised to find the girl sleeping on the front couch. Police said that he had served nine years in the penitentiary for armed robbery.

Police said Mrs. William Miles, 45, 5573 Woodlawn, told them she heard screams coming from the neighboring residence about 1:30 a. m. Her 18-year-old daughter, Miss Barbara Miles, was just returning home with her escort, James Tebbe, 19, 6131 Catina, and the three of them rushed to investigate.

When the girl told them what had happened, Tebbe raced through the house to the back yard in search of the man, police said. The man jumped from behind a tree, attacked Tebbe and ran out the driveway, they said. During the scuffle, Tebbe received a laceration of the hand.

Police Lt. Eldred Paternostro credited the "intelligent calmness" of the girl's mother with soothing the girl sufficiently to give a description of the attacker.

The girl was further calmed when she recognized among the officers some who had formerly been detailed to handle traffic at her school, police said.

27h(2) 1950

Massachusetts

8165

Man Hunt In Rape On Girl, 8, Recalls 1941 Murder Case

27h(2)

Lynn, Mass., Jan. 3 (AP)—The raping of an 8-year-old girl under circumstances which had some similarity to a fatal sex attack on a Lynn beauty eight years ago touched off an intensive man hunt today.

1-7-50

Lt. Edward Ray said the child, whose name was withheld, was raped in woods in which Frances Cochran, 19, was slain in July, 1941.

After the attack yesterday on the child, she was driven back to a spot near the former home of the Cochran girl.

Ray quoted the youngster as saying "a man in a new car" offered her a ride to the home of a playmate but took her instead to woods near the Salem-Lynn line.

The child furnished police with a description of the man who let her out of his car a mile and a half from her home, Ray said.

She was treated as Lynn Hospital by physicians who said she had been raped.

Partly Nude Body Of Woman Found In Massachusetts

12-4-50

Boylston, Mass., Dec. 3 (U.P.)—A partly undressed woman's body was found today in a woods near a rustic "lover's lane" here. Police indicated she had been raped and murdered.

27h(2)

State police said the body was that of a woman between 25 and 30. It had been lying there, almost buried under leaves and brush, for "four or five days." There were black-and-blue marks on the face.

The woman's identity and the cause of her death were not immediately learned. A medical examiner and a State pathologist were called to the scene.

Three Face Charges Of Attack On Matron

27h(2)

CHICOPEE, Mass., May 17—(AP)—Three Westover Air Force Base soldiers will be arraigned in District Court today on charges of raping a 37-year-old Holyoke woman after offering to drive her home in a taxicab.

Ira I. Miller, 25, of Fordyce, Ark., Brice A. Chambers, 23, of Pine Bluff, Ark., and Earl W. Grimes, 23, of Louden, Tenn., were arrested yesterday after Mrs. Catherine Walz was found wandering along a road in the Fairview section in hysterical condition, her clothes in tatters.

Police said she told them the three soldiers offered her a lift in a taxi after she left Chicopee cafe. She said they forced her to get out in Fairview, however, and then dragged her to a cellar hole where they beat and raped her.

Patrolman [illegible] Baltazer took Mrs. Walz to Providence Hospital, Holyoke, where she was treated for three broken ribs, facial and throat and body bruises.

She later pleaded innocent to a drunkenness charge and her case was continued to Thursday.

27h(2) 1950 Massachusetts

8166

Rape Of Girl Gives Clue To Old Killing

27h(2)

LYNN, MASS., Jan. 3—(AP)—The raping of an eight-year-old girl caused investigators Tuesday night to delve into the unsolved sex slaying of a Lynn beauty eight years ago in their search for the attacker.

The hour, place and the route taken coincided closely in the two crimes.

Advertiser

The youngster, whose identity was not disclosed, was picked up by a man in an automobile close to the spot where Frances Cochran, 19, was last seen alive as she got into an automobile. The little girl was driven to the same woodland area where the Cochran girl's ravished body was found back in July, 1941.

Wed. 1-4-50

After the child was attacked, her assailant drove her to within a mile and a half of her home, a location near the Cochran girl's home.

Montgomery

Police said the eight-year-old furnished a description of her attacker, and his "new car," but they were admittedly without a clue to his identity.

Ala

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3 Admit Rape At Marianna

27h(2)

MARIANNA, FLA., Jan. 2—(AP)—Sheriff Ernest Barnes said today three men have confessed orally to him to attacks on a 15-year-old girl near here Sunday night.

Advertiser

Barnes identified the men as Joseph Edge, 23, Johnny Edge, 26, and Elbert Kyle, Jr., 19, and said charges of rape would be preferred against the trio tomorrow.

The men were arrested after the girl walked into Cottondale, Fla., and reported the incident to Chief of Police J. C. Jackson.

The girl told Sheriff Barnes that:

Tues. 1-3-50

She was in a picture show in Cottondale when the public address system announced she was wanted outside. Unsuspectingly she walked out to be faced by three men, who forced her into an automobile. They drove a few miles into the country where she was attacked. Afterwards she walked back into Cottondale.

Montgomery

Ala

27h(2) 1950 Michigan

8167

Man Is Killed Fighting Off Raper of Wife

27h(2)

June 6-13-50

Detroit, June 12 (U.P.)—Auto worker Eugene Schaaf was killed today when he tried to fight off a youthful assailant who raped his 31-year-old wife and fled into the woods.

State police broadcast an alarm for Walter M. Noth, 21, whose truck was abandoned near the scene of the slaying in a wooded area 15 miles north of Detroit.

Mich

Noth was believed to be armed.

Schaaf, 40, the father of four children, died of a bullet in his heart as he struggled with a man who stepped in front of their slow-moving automobile and demanded that Mrs. Schaaf get out.

Dragged Her Off to Woods

His wife, Beulah, was almost hysterical when a motorist took her to a suburban police station early today. She said her husband was "wounded and wandering around in the woods" after fighting with a young man.

She did not learn for several hours that Schaaf died almost instantly.

She said the youth dragged her off the road and raped her after the shooting. Her assailant then drove off in their automobile.

SLAYS HUSBAND AND RAPES WIFE IN LOVERS' LANE

Tribune

Tues, 6-13-50

Detroit, June 12 [Special]—Roadblocks were set up today in Oakland county by state police and sherif's deputies in a search for a rapist who shot and killed a husband trying to protect his wife from a rape attack.

A teletype alarm was sent out for the arrest of Walter Marvin Noth, 22, of Detroit, part owner of a truck found near the slaying scene in a woods in Warren township.

27h(2)

Police questioned and released Clifford Pedersen, 24, of Royal Oak, the other owner of the truck. Pedersen said he and Noth were partners in a steeplejack contracting enterprise.

Mich

Gunman Stops Car

The slaying victim was Eugene Schaaf, 40, father of four. His wife, Beulah, 31, said she and her husband left a tavern about 2:30 a. m. today and started to drive home. Their route took them thru a district known as Bill's Woods, which has a reputation as a lovers' lane.

She said a man leaped in front of the car brandishing a revolver. Her husband stopped the car, she said, and the man jumped on the running board. She heard the man announce he was bent on rape and did not intend to be stopped.

"I yelled to my husband to be quiet," Mrs. Schaaf told police. "Instead, he jumped out of the car and lunged at the man. I heard a shot and saw my husband fall."

Mrs. Schaaf said the man then dragged her out of the car, struck her on the head with the revolver, and raped her. The man left her beside the body of her husband and drove off in their automobile, first taking $29 from the body.

Woman Claims Earring

Police said the slayer apparently had driven to the scene in the abandoned truck. A purse and an earring found nearby were claimed later by a woman who told police a man in a truck tried to attack her about 2 a. m.

Police said Noth was not at home last night and did not appear for work today. He has a police record of two arrests for disorderly conduct and one for assault and battery.

Schaaf was an assembly line worker for the Hudson Motor company.

GIRL, 8, FOUND DEAD; WAS RAPED AND STRANGLED

Indiana

Mon. 6-26-50

Parolee Is Hunted for Questioning

Corunna, Mich., June 25 (AP)—Virginia Mae Bird, 8, was raped and strangled in her bed today.

Shiawassee County Sherif Charles Bowner said Clifford Pulver, 32, a paroled convict, was being sought for questioning.

Virginia was the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bird.

Mother Tells Story

The sherif said Mrs. Bird gave this account:

27h(2)

Pulver, a brother of Bird's first wife, came to the Bird home at 3:30 a. m. He had been drinking and asked permission to remain the rest of the night. He did not want to go to his own home because his mother objected to his drinking.

Mrs. Bird awoke about 6 a. m.

Virginia had been sleeping on a couch outside her parents' bedroom. Mrs. Bird noticed the girl was lying in a strange position on the couch. She found the child was dead. Pulver was missing.

Served for Burglary

State police launched a statewide search for Pulver. He had been paroled from Southern Michigan prison March 29 after serving a term for burglary.

The girl's foster father is employed by an auto parts firm in this central Michigan town.

Girl, 8, Slain After Attack

Mon. 6-26-50

27h(2)

CORUNNA, Mich., June 25—(AP)—Eight-year-old Virginia Mae Bird was raped and strangled to death in her bed early Sunday.

Shiawassee County Sheriff Charles Downer said Clifford Pulver, 32, a paroled convict, was being sought for questioning.

Virginia Mae was the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bird.

Rape Of Negro, 9, Charged To Couple

Wed. 8-2-50

DETROIT, Aug. 1 (AP)—A white married couple, were arraigned before recorder's Judge Joseph A. Gillis on a charge of statutory rape of a nine-year-old Negro girl.

Eugene Sydor, 31, and his wife, Eleanor, 28, were ordered to face examination Aug. 8. Both pleaded innocent.

Birmingham, Alas.

Police accused Mrs. Sydor of holding the girl while her husband raped the child.

Unable to post $2500 bond, Sydor was ordered to jail. His wife was released under $500 bond.

Raped Michigan Coed, 18, Killed With Her Own Scarf

27h(2) Mich

By The United Press

Kalamazoo, Mich., Dec. 3.—A pretty 18-year-old college coed, missing from school for a week, was found raped and murdered in a cornfield today.

Officers said Carolyn Drown, Stockbridge, Mich., had been strangled with her own silk scarf. After an autopsy, Sheriff Otto Bruder announced a verdict of murder and rape.

Miss Drown, a freshman at Western Michigan College here, vanished just a week ago tonight. A search by 200 men and six airplanes had turned up no clue to her fate.

100 Feet From Highway

A farmer, Mark Shilling, said he spotted "something bright red" in a cornfield this afternoon while posting "No-Hunting" signs.

It was Miss Drown's coat. The body lay about 100 feet from a lonely rural highway.

Sheriff's deputies, National Guard members, and volunteers had been searching the Western Michigan campus and roads and fields around it since last Tuesday.

Miss Drown last was seen in a drugstore, eating alone while a heavy snowstorm raged outside. She failed to return to her room that night, friends said, and her parents were notified when she also failed to report to classes Monday.

Search Hampered

Fears that the pretty blue-eyed brunette might have been the victim of a sex maniac developed late in the week when a 21-year-old Kalamazoo nurse's aide reported she had been raped by a "raving" Negro Thursday night.

The search for the missing coed also became a search for a sex criminal. However, police had made no arrests in the assault case.

The hunt for Miss Drown was hampered by snowdrifts and ice that covered this southwestern-Michigan city, midway between Detroit and Chicago.

'Pig Face' Rapist Admits 2 Assaults

27h(2)

DETROIT, Nov. 27—(U.P.)—The "pig face" rapist of Battle Creek, Mich., pleaded guilty today to a Federal assault charge that carries a maximum death penalty.

Richard B. Eberhard, 23, admitted assaulting a 17-year-old high school girl on Ft. Custer property, making the crime a Federal offense.

The youth terrorized Battle Creek for several weeks, wearing a rubber mask moulded into a pig's head when he attacked women.

Eberhard also admitted assaulting another girl and attempting to force four other women into his car at gun point. Federal Judge Theodore Levin set sentencing for next month.

27h(2) 1950

Minnesota

8168

Search On For Man Who Attacked Girl, 10

27h(2)

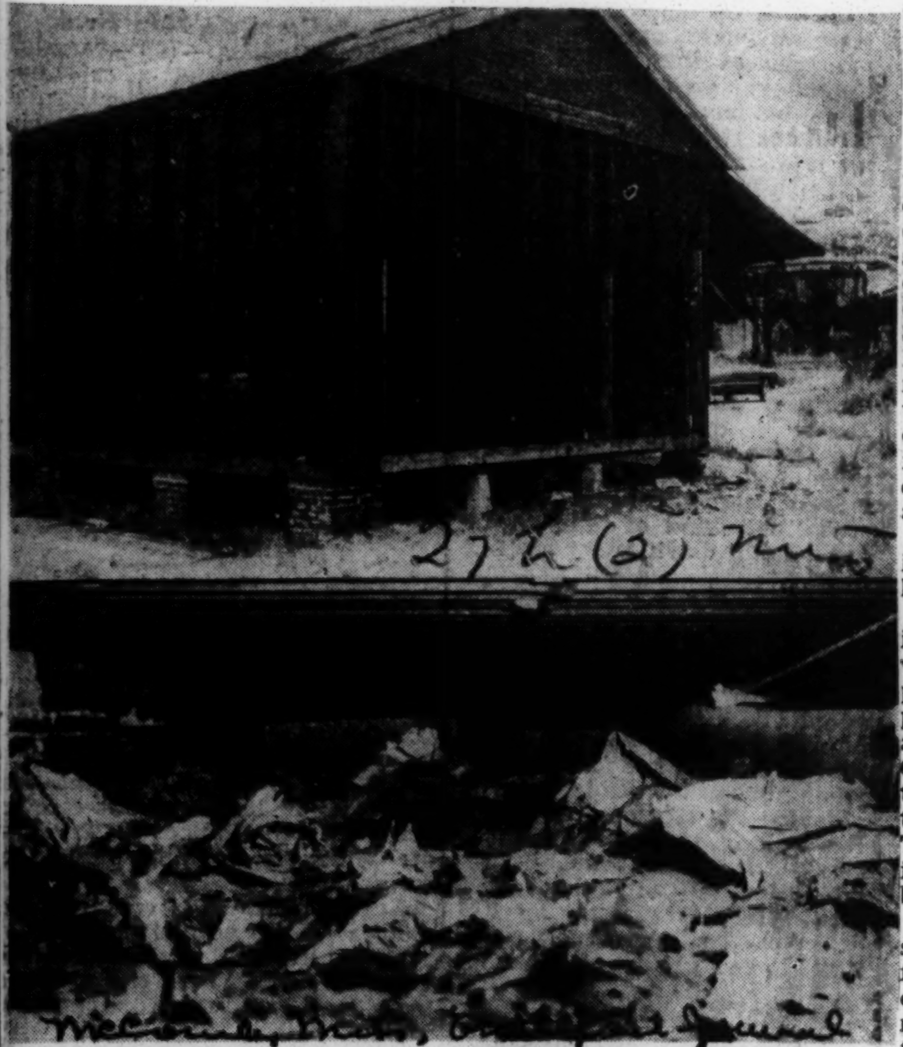
MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 7 (AP)—A hunt was on Saturday for the man who lured a 10-year-old girl into his car, forced her to undress during a three-hour ride of terror and then raped her.

1-7-50

The man accosted the child Friday afternoon while she and two playmates were tobogganing in suburban St. Louis Park and asked directions to a nearby golf club. The 10-year-old told him how to get there and at his invitation got into the car to show him the way.

Patrolman F. J. Schanger said the girl told him the man had threatened her with a knife which she described as "funny and curved." She said the man gave her a quarter before letting her out of the car about two miles from where he had picked her up.

8169



27h(2) Mon

McComb, Miss., Enterprise Journal

ALLEGED ASSAULTS TOOK PLACE HERE — For the lower picture, Staff Photographer Leigh Klotz pointed his camera directly at the place under the "seed house" in Kramertown where a Negro woman told policemen two white men made her go and submit to criminal assaults early yesterday morning.

Mon. 5-29-50

Top picture is of the north end of the seed house. The events of the story are believed to have taken place under this building in the section to the left of the line made by the corner brick pillar and the two small concrete pillars to the right.

WHITE MEN ARE SUSPECTED IN ASSAULT CASE

Enterprise Journal

Negro Woman, 23, Charges She Was Victim Of Repeated Criminal Attacks

(Picture on Page 2)

Two white men, both lumber company workers of Summit, were jailed here Sunday after an affidavit was drawn up which charged them with being involved in an alleged criminal assault on a Negro woman. The incidents which brought about the arrests of the pair occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning, in McComb.

Mon. 5-29-50

The men were listed in an affidavit prepared by District Attorney L. S. McClaren and County Prosecuting Attorney R. B. Reeves as Dess Kelly and Russell Hopkins.

McComb

The document sets forth that:

". . . (Kelly and Hopkins) did willfully, unlawfully and feloniously have carnal knowledge of (name withheld), a female person 12 years of age and upwards, without her consent."

Kelly Sunday afternoon was transferred from the McComb jail to the Pike County jail in Magnolia while Hopkins remained last night in the local jail. The latter, however, was slated to be transferred elsewhere, if developments warranted this action.

27h(2)

Neither Admits A Part

Neither man had admitted participation in the alleged attack, officers who have worked on the case since early Sunday morning said. In addition to the two prosecuting attorneys, McComb police chief Clyde E. Simmons, Deputy Sheriff Charley Godbold and Marshal Fred Bornman of Summit, and several other officers were active during Sunday in an effort to piece together the shifting fabric of several stories and determine exactly what happened and who was involved.

The various statements in the investigation indicate that events happened as follows:

At around 1 a. m. Sunday morning, the 23-year-old married Negro woman and her baby, in the company of three male relatives, the party being in two cars, stopped at the rear of the Blue and White Grill on South Broadway, two of the men going into the kitchen of the restaurant to get sandwiches. The third Negro man was asleep in one of the cars, as was the baby.

The woman, according to her story to police officers, stepped from the car and into the darkened area behind the cafe for a moment and, as she started back to the car, was seized by two white men.

Forced To Go With Men

One of the pair twisted her arm and told her an outcry would be fatal, she said. The men forced her to accompany them to the north end of a building used as a "seed house" by a cotton ginning concern.

She was forced to get under the house with the men, who divested her of her clothing and attacked her, she said.

The first of her attackers left within a comparatively short time but her second assailant was quite intoxicated, she said, and it was only after he had fallen asleep that she was able to extricate herself from the close quarters under the house, find her dress and slip, and get out.

She said she was under the house for approximately an hour.

In the meantime, her two Negro male companions had returned to the car, finding the infant but discovering that the woman was missing. After the men had searched for the woman without success, they went to the police department and reported the situation to night Chief Tom Lane.

Enterprise Journal

Patrolmen Hulette Baham and Paul Norwood of the night force returned to the scene with the men. There they found the woman had come back to one of the cars.

Mon 5-29-50

Man Asleep Under Building

She told the officers what had happened and that she believed they would find one of the men still under the building, asleep.

Under the north end of the seed house, the officers found and arrested a man whose name is listed on the police blotter as "Dess Kelly, 23, white male, 5 feet-8, weight 145 pounds, Summit, Route 5." He was lodged in jail on a drunk charge pending further investigation.

27h(2)

The Negro woman told officers she had not been able to find her glasses or brassiere when she located her other garments and fled from under the building.

Substantiating her story at least to that extent, the glasses were found early Sunday morning, several feet up under the seed house by a colored man cook at the Blue and White Grill. Later, Patrolman M. C. Ergington of the police department went under the building and among the debris on the scene found a brassiere and a hat which is believed to have been left there by Kelly.

Chief Simmons, Deputy Godbold and Summit Marshal Bornman made inquiries Sunday morning which indicated that Hopkins had been seen with Kelly during Sunday morning. The man was picked up about noon by Godbold and Bornman and brought to McComb.

Investigation Continues

A third man also said to have been in the company of Kelly at some time Saturday night—Sunday morning was being hunted for questioning Sunday, but was said to have been "out of town."

The Negro woman told officers Sunday afternoon that she could recall little that would help to identify her attackers. She said she believed both to have reasonably light hair and that they were "about the same size." Neither wore coat or necktie, she was positive.

Woman Assuces White Men Of Assault

27h(2)

McCOMB, Miss. — (ANP) — Police arrested two white men here last week on a charge of criminally assaulting a Negro woman in a cotton gin [illegible]shed recently. The woman said the two men had forced her to submit to their attentions.

Held for Attack On Girl Baby, 3

Courier

27h(2)

NATCHEZ, Miss.—A 33-year-old ex-convict was arrested last Monday on a charge of raping a 3-year-old colored girl last week.

Sat. 7-29-50

Major Dorsey was taken into custody for the crime, which the officials stated was committed Sunday.

Jackson Girl, 19, 'Protecting Friend' And Wasn't Raped

Things that make police unhappy:

A 19-year-old Jackson girl who screamed that she was raped Friday afternoon turned out to be lying, police said Saturday.

But the attractive girl admitted her hoax only after 26 hours of investigation by three city detectives trying to solve the "crime."

The girl finally admitted after three hours of questioning at police headquarters Saturday that her bedroom scene was with her boy friend.

She sobbed over the phone to her sister Friday that "a tall white man" had entered her bedroom as she dozed and he threatened to kill her if she didn't submit to him. Her sister called police.

27h(2)

The girl reported the "rape" at 3:30 p. m. Friday.

But an investigation showed that she had three visitors in her house at 3 p. m. Her boy friend, one of the visitors, stayed after the other two, a man and his wife, left.

The girl made up the false "rape" charge, she told police, to protect her boy friend.

Two city detectives, L. C. Bennett and J. R. Luke, in addition to Lt. Eddie Brown, questioned the girl Saturday afternoon and investigated the case over a day before the girl finally admitted her lie.

Three White Men Jailed In Canton For Rape, Assault

Daily News

27(3)

Three men were being held in jail at Canton Saturday in connection with attempted rape, assault and battery and disturbing the peace charges in Montgomery and Copiah counties Friday night.

The men were not immediately identified by officers.

Sheriff DeWitt E. Tyler of Montgomery county said Saturday that the men would be returned to Winona Saturday to face the disturbing the peace charge.

Deputy Sheriff Lee Reynolds of Copiah county reported that he had requested custody of the men after Montgomery county officers had finished with them.

Sheriff Tyler said that he did not have the men's names. It was understood in Jackson that the men were jailed at Canton by the State Highway Patrol after having been apprehended late Friday night by Patrolmen Charlie Snodgrass and Vinson.

Neither officer was immediately available for comment.

Sheriff Tyler said that the men were wanted in Winona in connection with an alleged beating there. He did not elaborate.

Reynolds said that the attempted rape and another assault and battery upon two white women occurred on the highway just north of Hazlehurst. He said that he had sworn out warrants on both charges.

The women told Reynolds that the men picked them up at Winona. Near Hazlehurst, they said the attempted rape and beatings took place.

They said that the men told them they were "slot machine artists."

Reynolds said that he had asked that the men be returned to Copiah county to face the charges there.

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2 Youths Face Assault Charges

Post Herald

Mississippi Girls Victims Of Attack

Thurs. 11-16-50

LAUREL, Miss., Nov. 15 (U.P.)—County Atty. E. K. Collins said today that statutory rape charges have been filed against Tommy "Toby" Hankins, 20, and Robert Ward, about 22, in connection with alleged attacks involving two teenage girls.

According to Collins, the attacks were alleged to have taken place last Sunday night in a wooded area of U. S. Highway 11 several miles north of here.

27(3)

Collins said the two unidentified girls claimed they were picked up by Hankins and Ward and, accompanied by other persons not named, drove to a tavern north of here and bought a bottle of whisky.

Hankins, Ward and the two girls then drove to the wooded area where the alleged attack took place and then returned to Laurel, Collins said.

He said Ward was charged with an attack on a 17-year-old girl and Hankins with an attack on a 16-year-old girl.

Collins identified Ward as a Laurel married man with one child and separated from his wife, and Hankins as single and a resident of rural Jones County.

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2 White Men Held in Attack

Afro-American

Girl Abducted to Lonely Cabin

27(3)

Sat. 9-16-50

MT. OLIVE, Miss. — Two white men have been released on bond on charges of having criminally abused a young girl in a lonely cabin near here. They are Bruett Hernby and a man named Sykes who were arrested by Sheriff Sam Johnson and Deputy Clarence Stewart of Simpson County.

According to reports, the men encouraged the girl's father, Dousa Durr of the Leebill Community, to get drunk and then accompanied him home from where they abducted his daughter, Hazzie, and carried her to a cabin three miles away, where they abused her during the night.

In the meantime, the girl's mother, Mrs. Lula Durr and the father, who is a tenant farmer, solicited the help of the farm owner, Marvin Bey, white. He and a couple of other white farmers searched for the girl in vain and then reported the case to the sheriff.

Clothes Torn Off

The next night, the girl, bruised, bleeding and nude, dragged her way home and gave a gruesome account of how she was stripped of her clothing and brutally attacked. The men's arrest followed.

It has been reported that they have threatened to make trouble for the Durr family if they testify against them.

While the white bigots in this area cry, "Rape means Rope" in Mississippi, no attempts have been made to put a rope around Hernby and Sykes and no account of the fiendish incident has appeared in the daily press.

Two Charged With Statutory Rape

Daily News

27(3)

LAUREL — (Special) — County Prosecuting Atty. E. K. Collins of Laurel said here he had filed charges of statutory rape against Tommy (Toby) Hankins, 20 and Robert Ward, about 22, in alleged attacks involving a girl 16 and another 17 years of age.

Wed 11-15-50

Collins said the attacks took place Sunday night in a wooded area several miles north of Laurel off U. S. Highway 11. The two girls were picked up by Hankins and Ward, and the four of them, accompanied by other persons not named, drove to a tavern north of Laurel and stopped to purchase a bottle of whiskey, Collins said.

Hankins, Ward and the two girls then drove to the wooded area where the alleged attack took place, said Collins, and they returned to Laurel. The girls told authorities and the two men were later picked up.

Collins said Ward was charged with the attack on the 17-year-old girl and Hankins with an attack on the 16-year-old. Ward was identified by Collins as a Laurel married man with one child separated from his wife, while Hankins is single and a resident of rural Jones county.

27h(2) 1950 Missouri

8170

Minister Charged As Girls' Assailant

Constitution

BROOKFIELD, Mo., June 22—(AP)—Rev. Merrit Kenneth Kirks, pastor of the Christian Church at Mendon, Mo., Thursday was charged with rape of one teen-age Brookfield girl and felonious assault against two others.

Prosecuting Atty. Marvin Hopper filed the charges and said the minister admitted raping Carol Lee Renshaw, 1[illegible], and striking Jo Ann Spencer, 13, and Joyce Elizabeth Spencer, 12, sisters, with a German luger pistol last Thursday afternoon.

6-23-50

Atlanta Ga

27h(2) 1950 Missouri 8171

Grid Star Seizes Gunman Attempting Attack on Girl

Constitution

Tue. 2-14-50

Atlanta, Ga.

27h(2)

Mo

ST. LOUIS—(UP)—James Greig, 23-year-old Washington University football player, has earned another "letter"—an invisible C for courage.

Greig tackled and captured the masked gunman who was attempting to attack his girl friend Sunday.

Involved in the incident were Greig, his "steady" girl friend, former Washington University Homecoming Queen, Charlotte Obst, 19, and Kendall L. Morris, 28-year-old former convict.

Greig dodged bullets to down the ex-convict, tie him with his own belt, shove him into the trunk of Greig's car and deliver him to police.

Returning from a movie early Sunday morning, the couple was accosted by Morris as they drove slowly through Carondolet Park. Greig rolled down his window and Morris shoved a pistol at him.

The gunman, wearing a rubber Halloween mask over his face and head, forced Greig to drive to a lonely country road about 18 miles from the city. There, he took Greig's billfold, containing $3, and dragged the Obst girl down the road in an attack attempt. Discarding his overcoat, Greig sprinted after the pair. Morris fired two shots, but failed to stop him as Greig downed him with a flying tackle.

Greig recovered his billfold, and held one of the bandit's guns on him as the girl turned his car around. He then trussed up Morris, put him in the trunk, and drove to the police station.

Baby Sitter, 15, Attacked, Slain

Advertiser

Mon. 3-20-50

Montgomery, Ala.

27h(2)

Mo

COLUMBIA, MO., March 19—(AP)—A 15-year-old baby-sitter was brutally raped and slain Saturday night in the third criminal incident involving baby-sitters in the same general neighborhood in recent months.

Prosecuting Attorney Carl Sapp said Jeanette Christman, a high school student, died after a "terrific struggle." He said the girl's head had been punctured by an instrument that apparently resembled a small pipe. An electric iron cord was twisted around her neck.

The attractive high school girl was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Romack, who were attending a dance. The house is in the same general area where another baby sitter was raped six months ago and a third was the victim of an attempted assault later.

Baby-Sitter, 13, Raped And Slain After Struggle

Courier-Journal

Mon. 3-20-50

Louisville, Ky.

27h(2)

Columbia, Mo., March 19 (AP)—A 13-year-old baby-sitter was raped and slain last night in the third criminal incident involving baby-sitters in the same general neighborhood in recent months.

Prosecuting Attorney Carl Sapp said Jeanett Christman, a high-school student, died after a "terrific struggle." He said the girl's head had been punctured by an instrument that apparently resembled a small pipe. An electric-iron cord was twisted around her neck.

The girl was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Romack, who were at a dance. The house is in the same general area where another baby-sitter was raped six months ago, and a third was the victim of an attempted assault later.

Awaiting trial on charges of assault with intent to rape in the latter case is Jake Bradford, Columbia, a Negro.

The prosecutor said last night's assailant apparently entered the house through a living-room window and crawled over a grand piano. Sapp said blood was smeared "all through the house," as if the baby-sitter had struggled fiercely with the intruder.

Mrs. Romack discovered the body sprawled on the living-room floor when she and her husband returned from the dance. Their child, Gregory, 2½, was unharmed and apparently had slept through the incident.

Mo

Baby-Sitter Brutally Beaten, Assaulted, Slain

Constitution

Mon. 3-21-50

Atlanta, Ga.

27h(2)

Mo

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP)—A 13-year-old baby-sitter was brutally assaulted and slain Saturday night in the third criminal incident involving baby-sitters in the same general neighborhood in recent months.

Prosecuting Atty. Carl Sapp said Jeanett Christman, a high school student, died after a "terrific struggle." He said the girl's head had been punctured by an instrument that apparently resembled a small pipe. An electric-iron cord was twisted around her neck.

The attractive high school girl was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Romack, who were attending a dance. The house is in the same general area where another baby-sitter was attacked six months ago, and a third was the victim of an attempted assault later.

Oust Atty. In Columbia Rape Case

Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

Fri. 4-7-50

27h(2)

Mo

COLUMBIA, Mo.—David V. Bear, white, stood accused, convicted and fired for upholding the civil rights of five Negroes held as suspects in the rape-killing of 13-year-old Jane Christman, on last April 18. Bear was fired Tuesday, after he informed the jailer that holding the prisoners longer than 20 hours without any charges filed against them, '... would constitute a violation of the law."

City Manager Bill N. Taylor who brought the ax down on Bear did not claim that prisoners could be held longer than 20 hours without charges, merely saying." ... we have no other choice."

According to well informed observers Bear was fired as City attorney, because he refused to go along with the "legalized lynching." technique used by the Columbia Police Department to clear up troublesome cases.

Charges Terror

William V. Massingale, former state representative and Chairman of the Civil Rights Congress of Missouri, issued a statement charging the Columbia police department with participating in " . . . a pattern of terror against the Negro people of this city."

Argus

Massingale referred to the trial of Jake Bradford, Jr., who was held by Columbia Police for six days without filing any charges against him. Bradford was subsequently convicted on a charge of assault with intent to commit rape.

Fri. 4-7-50

Massingale continued, "There is no promise of security for the white people of Columbia in a campaign of terror against the Negro residents every time a crime is committed. This is simply making a scapegoat of the Negro people, and makes the conviction of the real criminal, whether white or Negro, very unlikely if not impossible.

COLUMBIA, MO., GIRL, 13, FOUND DEAD IN HOME

Tribune
Mon. 3-20-50

Signs of Desperate Struggle Seen

Columbia, Mo., March 19 [Special]—A 13 year old baby sitter was raped and slain last night in a Columbia home in the fourth rape or attempted rape in the same neighborhood in the last four years. One of the other victims was also slain.

276(2)

Prosecuting Atty. Carl Sapp said Janett Christmas, a junior high school student, put up a "terriffic struggle" with the intruder who had smashed a window to gain entry to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Romack, where she was baby sitting in charge of the couple's son, Gergory, 3.

Mo

The boy, in a bedroom off the living room, was unhurt and apparently had slept thru the entire incident.

Cord Wound Around Neck

The brown haired girl and her assailant had battled thru the living room, a hall leading to the rear of the one story home, and the kitchen. Walls and floors of these rooms were spattered with blood, and the walls were smeared with bloody hand and finger prints.

When the Romacks returned home at 1:35 a. m. and found Janett's body on the living room floor, an electric iron cord was wound tightly around her neck and her clothing was disarranged.

Dr. M. P. Neal, University of Missouri pathologist who conducted an autopsy, said death was caused by asphyxiation due to strangulation. The girl also had been beaten on the head with a blunt instrument, apparently a pipe of small diameter. This weapon has not been found. Dr. Neal placed the time of death between 10:30 and 11:30 p. m.

Sleet Storm Raging

At that hour a sleet and electrical storm was battering this university town, preventing anyone hearing any outcray Janett might have made. In addition, the Romack home is in a new subdivision and is somewhat isolated.

The Romacks, who were attending a dinner and dance, attempted to telephone their home at 11 p. m., but got a busy signal. Since they have a party line, they thought nothing of it. Romack said that after their return he found the telephone receiver slightly askew in its cradle, perhaps indicating Janett had attempted to telephone for aid.

The killer made his entry by smashing a window at the side of the living room and crawling over a grand piano beside the window to reach the floor of the room. He had reached the window, 7 feet above the ground, by climbing on a sawhorse he had removed from the back yard.

Tracked to Bus Stop

The Romacks on their return found the front door closed but unlocked, and the back door ajar.

Bloodhounds from the state reformatory at Algoa tracked the killer six blocks to a bus stop three times, and authorities today were questioning bus drivers in the hope of obtaining the description of anyone who boarded or left a bus at that corner during the period the killer may have done so.

Janett previously had acted as a baby sitter for the Romacks. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Christman. The father operates Ernie's Steak House in this city. Romack is an accountant with the firm of Williams and Romack.

The slaying of Janett was similar to the rape slaying Feb. 19, 1946, of Marylou Jenkins, 20.

Preacher Admits Attacking Girl, 14

Post-Herald Fri. 6-23-50
Birmingham, Ala.

Young Father Tells Officers He Slugged 2 Other Children; May Face Death Sentence

BROOKFIELD, Mo., June 22 (U.P.)—A 27-year-old minister, father of two small girls, admitted today that he had raped a 14-year-old girl after slugging her two companions with a German Luger pistol he carried in his car.

The Rev. Merritt Kenneth Kirks ordained a minister of the Disciples of Christ (Christian) Church in Kansas City last July 11, had been pastor of the church at Mendon Mo., in Chariton County, since April.

276(2)

Linn County Prosecutor Marvin D. Hopper announced that Kirks signed a full confession of the attack, which occurred on a dirt road near Saint Catherine's, Mo., on June 15. Hopper said a maximum sentence of death was possible.

Mo

Kirks was to be arraigned this afternoon. Kirks, a veteran of overseas infantry service with the 86th, 63rd, 36th and 106th Divisions, was a German prisoner for the last two weeks of the war. He studied at Drake University, Des Moines, Ia., from 1946 to 1946, when he was graduated with a B.A. degree.

Fought Off Impulse

Hopper said Kirks detailed how he had fought off previously an impulse to pick up a woman hitchhiker. Kirks told how, on June 15, he found the three girls walking on Highway 11 east of Brookfield, drove them to the Country Club and let them out. Then he returned, found them still standing where he'd let them out and offered to take them wherever they wanted to go.

He drove to Saint Catherine's, where he bought each a bottle of soda pop, then took them into the country where he ordered the children to line up facing a fence.

Then, Hopper said, Kirks said he slugged two of them on the head with his unloaded pistol, and ordered the third into the car, where he raped her.

Tells Of Head Wound

Kirks said he suffered a head wound when he was taken prisoner by the Germans and received no medical attention for it. He said it was superficial.

Capt. E. W. Pate, of the State Highway Patrol, said Kirks was arrested on the basis of a description by two 14-year-old girls and a 13-year-old girl who said a "small, dark man, driving a blue, 1949 Plymouth car." accosted them on a country road two miles east of here June 17.

Highway Patrol Sgt. Walter Snyder said he located Kirks, who is five feet four inches tall and weighs only 121 pounds, in the Mendon business district yesterday.

27h(2) 1950

Nebraska

8174

Three Trapped Men Admit Vicious Hatchet-Rape Case

Courier-Journal

27h(2) Nebraska

Monday Oct 23 50

Omaha, Oct. 22 (UP) — Three men, trapped in one of the city's most intensive man hunts, confessed today they raped two women repeatedly after hatcheting and leaving for dead their soldier boy friends.

Police said the trio admitted guilt in "the most vicious" case just 24 hours after the soldiers and their Council Bluffs, Iowa, girl friends were attacked.

Held were J. D. Kerns, 24, Waterloo, Neb.; Carl Hoffman, 34, Omaha; Frederick Mason, 23, Omaha, and his wife, Florence.

'We Were Just Drinking'

Louisville Ky

Hoffman offered the only explanation: "We were just drinking" in a tavern and decided to get a woman."

They drove through lonely Hummel Park and spotted the parked car of Cpls. Eugene R. Burnham, 20, and Raymond J. Pharr, 20, both of nearby Strategic Air Command headquarters.

They ordered the soldiers from the car, and Burnham was struck with the hatchet. Forty-one stitches were required to close the wound. Pharr was knocked unconscious. The men said they then drove off with the girls, one 15, the other a 21-year-old divorced mother of three.

Wife Brings In Rings

The girls were later released and one stumbled to a Police Station.

Angry detectives, starting only only with hysterical descriptions of the men, tracked down Mason, who wore a plaid jacket mentioned by the girls. He implicated his companions.

But the three did not confess until after Mason's wife walked into Police Headquarters with two rings and other jewelry that one of the women said were taken from her after her clothing had been removed.

Mrs. Mason blurted out that "I got these from a man who knows about those attacks and if you'll let my husband out I'll give you his name."

But after the Iowa woman identied the jewelry, Green said Mrs. Mason confessed her husband told her to "Hide these in the hot-air vent."

27h(2) 1950 New Jersey 8173

21-Month-Old, Left Alone, Found Raped

Mon, 12-11-50

Atlantic City, Dec. 10 (AP)—A 21-month-old baby was found raped early today after her mother returned from a party.

The baby was taken to Atlantic City General Hospital where she was described as in fair condition.

27h(2)

Acting Detective Capt. James Pike described it as the "foulest case in the annals of the Atlantic City Police Department."

He said the baby was found in her bloodstained crib by her mother, Mrs. Shirley Reed, 25. Mrs. Reed, Pike said, had been out with a group of girl friends during the evening. She returned at 5 a.m.

He said the door of the Reed fifth-floor apartment had been forced. Pike said evidence showed the baby had been lifted to a nearby bed, and then returned to the crib.

The father of the child is serving in the Navy.

27h(2) 1950 New York 8172

MAN HELD FOR ATTEMPTED RAPE

New York- (ANP) Theodore Jeffries, 28 year old white man was held to the grand jury in police court here last week on a charge of attempting to rape a nine-year old girl after hitting her two brothers and sisters.
According to police, Jeffries accosted the four children and knocked down the two brothers, 7 and 12, and a sister 10. He put his coat over the nine year old girl and forced her into his car. He drove several blocks and parked but released the girl when she screamed and fought.
Jeffries was sentenced on $600 bond for a hearing on January 9.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Tues- Jan. 3- 50

Hold White Man For Attempted Rape

NEW YORK —(ANP)— Theodore Jefferies, 23-year-old white man was held to the grand jury in police court here last week on a charge of attempting to rape a nine-year-old girl after hitting her two brothers and a sister.

According to police, Jefferies accosted the four children and knocked down the two brothers, 7 and 12, and a sister, 10. He put his coat over the nine-year-old girl and forced her into his car. He drove several blocks and parked but released the girl when she screamed and fought.

Jefferies was released on $600 ond for a hearing on Jan. 9.

27h(2)

Hold White Man For Attempted Rape Of Girl, 9

27h(2) 1-6-50

NEW YORK (ANP)—Theodore Jefferies, 28-year-old white man was held to the grand jury in police court here last week on a charge of attempting to rape a nine-year-old girl after hitting her two brothers and a sister.

According to police, Jefferies accosted the four children and knocked down the two brothers, 7 and 12, and a sister, 10. He put his coat over the nine-year-old girl and forced her into his car. He drove several blocks and parked but released the girl when she screamed and fought.

Jeffries was released on $600 bond for a hearing on Jan. 9.

N.Y.

Suit Alleging Rape in Morgue Is Dismissed

New York, March 15 (AP).—A $200,000 suit against the city by a Bronx housewife, who claimed she was raped in the morgue of Lincoln Hospital, was dismissed today.

Mrs. Louise McIntosh, 50, complained that a morgue attendant, John J. Flanagan, introduced himself as "Dr. Wolf," gave her a whitish fluid to drink and raped her.

She sued on grounds that the city failed to protect her in the hospital where she was taken by ambulance after becoming ill on April 1, 1947. She wandered into the morgue, she said, while seeking medical aid.

Flanagan was arrested but the grand jury failed to indict him and the case was dismissed.

Thurs. 3-16-50
27h(2)
N.Y.
Washington

1933 Murder Mystery Case Cracked (?) By Mother's Story

NEW YORK, Feb. 10—(AP)—Seventeen years ago Barbara Wiles, five, was raped, then strangled with a rope in the basement of her Brooklyn home.

Her mother knew who did it.

But for 17 years she kept silent—keeping a promise to her own mother that she would spare the family disgrace.

Friday, the Brooklyn District Attorney's office said Mrs. Anna Wiles, tortured by nightmares and freed from her promise by two more deaths, named the slayer:

It was, she said, her own father and Barbara's grandfather, Charles Gunkel.

Brooklyn police said no further action is planned. Gunkel, 50 years old when Barbara was murdered, died last March. He is buried near Rochester, N. Y.

"I can't keep silent any longer," Mrs. Wiles told the district attorney's office. "The secret is making me sick."

She was quoted as saying, too, that her mother appeared in a dream with the words: "Now is the time to tell the police."

Barbara died of strangulation on March 28, 1933.

Various persons were questioned but the investigation led nowhere. Gunkel, a big, husky man, never came under official suspicion.

But his daughter suspected. For one thing, a ring which Barbara had left behind in her grandparents' house was found on the little girl's finger.

Fourteen months later, Mrs. Wiles said, she learned for certain from her own mother who the slayer was. But her mother pleaded:

"Promise me as long as your father and myself are alive never to tell anybody. It would only mean further tragedy to your brothers and sisters. Keep this secret in your heart. You would not want to see your father in jail or in the electric chair."

Sat. 2-11-50
2-11-50
27h(2)
N.Y.

Police Keep Girl's Date With Bronx Rape Suspect

Nicholas Donotone, thirty-three and married, of 2197 First Avenue, was arrested on a kidnaping charge yesterday after police arranged with a girl, who accused Donotone of attempted rape, to keep a date with him, not suspecting that police would be present to intervene, the District Attorney's office in the Bronx reported.

The girl, identified by police as Phyllis Eberwein, fifteen, of 451 East 140th Street, the Bronx, informed police last Monday of Donotone's attack after he allegedly forced the girl into his car and made her disrobe while he held a pistol on her. She resisted and finally persuaded Donotone to meet her for a date later, police said.

When Donotone appeared in his car for the date Wednesday night at 141st Street and Brook Avenue, the Bronx, he noticed two detectives near the girl. He tried to flee in his car but had to abandon it and escape by foot. He was picked up later in the night at his home after being traced through the car's license plates. Police said he admitted the rape charge, but said he had no weapon.

27h(2)
N.Y.
New York
Herald Tribune
Fri. 3-17-50

Police seek slayer of teen-age couple in 'lovers' lane'

AMSTERDAM, N. Y., Oct. 3—(AP) Police today sought the slayer of a pair of teen-aged sweethearts who died under a hail of bullets in a lonely "Lover's Lane."

A coroner said an autopsy indicated the 17-year-old girl had been raped. Dungarees and underclothes had been ripped from her body.

The Montgomery county sheriff's office said it appeared the crime had a "sex motive."

* * *

THE SUPERINTENDENT of a nearby quarry discovered the bodies of Jeanne Lorraine Stone of Amsterdam and William A. Waterman, 18, of Gloversville, yesterday, Coroner Frank F. Pipito said they had been dead about 18 hours.

Eleven .22 caliber bullets had been pumped into Waterman. The girl died of a single bullet wound in the head.

The young television installer's body was beside his car, which was parked in a wooded area about three miles east of this Mohawk valley city.

The girl's body was on a grassy plot about 30 feet away.

Police reported there were no signs of a struggle.

* * *

THEY THEORIZED that the slayer had surprised the young couple as they sat in the car.

There were four bullet holes through the window of the door on the driver's side of the coupe.

William J. Fish, investigator for the sheriff's office, said the bodies apparently had been dragged from the car and then more bullets fired into Waterman.

27h(2)
N.Y.

Escorts Beaten, Girl Attacked

3 of 4 White Youths Take Active Part

Afro-American

By JOE MAXWELL

5-27-50

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Sobbing hysterically, a 16-year-old high school girl told police here last week how three white boys beat her two male companions, forced her into a South Carolina car and drove to the outskirts of town where she was attacked by the trio as a fourth looked on.

"They took turns on me," the girl said adding, "They would have gone around another time if it had not been for the fourth man in the car who was in a drunken condition."

27h(2)

The incident began on the corners of E. Vance and S. College Sts., as the girl and her two companions, were coming from a small carnival show in the Third Ward section of the city.

Chased Away With Knife

She said that a black Buick stopped and two boys jumped out claiming that they were police officers.

Afro-American

The colored boys sensed the play and engaged the white boys in bitter battle but were no match as one of the latter drew a large knife. Thereupon the colored boys fled but not before securing the license number.

Dt. 5-27-50

"They, the white boys, then drew a knife on me and told me not to cry out-er else," the light-skinned and very attractive youth said.

From there, they drove to the outskirts of the city where she was attacked under some trees.

After the triple attack was over there was a reported bitter argument among the four as to whether to leave her there in the country at night, or to bring her back in the city so that she might get home easier.

Was 3 Blocks From Home

The fourth man in the Buick, who did not molest her at all, won out and they drove her within two miles of where they picked her up.

She was just three block from home when she was hijacked by the thugs.

27h(2)

Immediately after the girl got home her mother took her to the hospital where physicians reportedly confirmed that she had been violated several times.

Two suspects are being held for investigation.

N.C.

One already has been identified by the girl as participating in the "massed sex episode."

The boys in custody are from Charlotte and McColl, S.C.

NAACP Enters Case

The girl's mother told the AFRO-AMERICAN and Kelly M. Alexander, State head of the NAACP, last Sunday night that she had already signed a warrant.

Police said that the warrant would be issued against the youth as soon as it can be determined whether the attack occurred in the city or county and which department has jurisdiction.

Mr. Alexander told the AFRO, after the combined investigation, that the association would employ counsel to see that justice is done.

This episode climaxes a series of complaints from Charlotte colored women that white men have been openingly pestering them and asking and begging them for dates.

The NAACP said that it wanted to make sure that this case was not "played down, sidetracked, overlooked or railroaded."

White Man Charged With Attack on Girl

Afro-American

SCOTLAND NECK, N.C.—A 46-year-old white man was held in the county jail in Halifax last week without bail on a charge of criminal assault upon a 12-year-old colored girl, who was ordered to a hospital by a physician who examined her.

Dt. 10-21-50

The girl told police she was attacked while returning from school near Mary's Chapel in which section both lived. Pope was picked up on the highway in a state of drunkenness by Highway Patrolmen J. E. Welch and J. D. Gay.

The victim did not disclose the attack to her parents until she became ill and the physician was called in. She said Pope tied her throat with a rope and threatened her after the act.

Girl, 16, Fear Stricken, Refutes Attack Charge

Afro-American

27h(2)

By JOE MAXWELL

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — "Please let the case alone, because we are afraid to press it any further."

So stated the mother of a 16-year-old high school girl, who told police here last week that three white boys beat her two male companions and then drove her to the outskirts of the city, where they violated her several times.

The NAACP and a newspaper correspondent interviewed the family immediately after the incident was reported; and the family seemed determined to see that justice prevailed.

The mother took the girl at once to police headquarters, where the girl repeated the story of the attack and where the mother also told police that the hospital had confirmed the fact that the girl had been violated several times.

Last Monday, the NAACP retained J. S. Bowser of the State NAACP legal staff to "go into the case to see that it is not overlooked, sidetracked or railroaded," but apparently someone had some switch-engine ideas of their own.

Say She Made Up Tale

When the girl was called to come to police headquarters to identify the boys named as suspects again, she took back everything that she had previously charged.

Looking pale and thin from the reported sex ordeal, the girl told the same police officers that she had made up the story of the attack out of fear of being punished by her mother for coming home late. She was usually in by midnight.

She told the officers that she was not criminally assaulted and they immediately turned the white thug suspects aloose, although the two male companions of the girl stuck to their story that they were beaten by the boys and the girl forced into the automobile.

Afro-American

Threatened or Paid off?

Does all of this mean that the girl's family was threatened or paid off? It was said that one of the three youths driving a late model black Buick from McColl, S.C., hails from a financially well-to-do family.

Dt. 6-3-50

Baltimore, Md.

Police, however, are not pressing any investigation, although charges of assault could be preferred against the trio in connection with the beating of the girl's companions.

27h(2)

The mother, who has a young baby herself, seemed bewildered by the entire ordeal. "I'm sick of the whole business," she said; and the girl's step-father nodded his head in approval of her words.

Southern Customs Triumph

Local citizens are saying that Southern customs have won out again, in view of the fact that the case seemed open and shut against at least one of the offenders.

This alleged attack on the 16-year-old, who took back the story almost as fast as she told it, climaxed a series of molestations of colored women by white men in this area.

Man Faces Charge Of Raping Child

Journal and Guide

HALIFAX, N. C.—Norman Pope, 46-year-old white man, is being held without bond here for the alleged rape Oct. 4 of 12-year-old Alice Pope. The girl, from a hospital bed, said he tied a rope around her neck, raped her and threatened to kill her if she told.

27h(2)

Dt. 10-28-50

Alice said Pope attacked her as she walked home from a country school near Scotland Neck. The child became sick last Wednesday night and was taken to a hospital after her parents called in a doctor last Sunday. The girl said she had been afraid for four days to tell about it.

Norfolk, Va.

Highway Patrolmen J. E. Welch and J. D. Gay said they arrested Pope last Sunday night as he reeled drunkenly along a highway. They took him to Halifax county jail where a warrant was served. Pope will be given a magistrate's hearing when Alice is released from the hospital, officers said.

Rocky Mount Resident Indicted for Rape on Maid

Journal and Guide

27h(2)

NASHVILLE, N. C.—Following appeal from a Rocky Mount Recorder's Court conviction on a charge of raping a colored maid in his apartment, Howard A. Carson was indicted on the charge by the Nash County grand jury during its November term.

Dt. 12-9

His case may be scheduled for trial during the next term of Superior Court, inasmuch as it has not been listed on the calendar for trial for the current term, older cases on the docket consuming the entire week.

The indictment against the defendant charges that on Oct. 16, he, Howard Carson, "with force and arms, feloniously and forcibly assaulted against her will and did ravish and carnally know her.

Norfolk, Va.

* * *

THE ATTACK ALLEGEDLY occurred in the defendant's Rocky Mount home while the maid was cleaning the apartment.

He admitted having intimate relations with the maid, officers said, but denied that he used force.

The case was heard in the Rocky Mount Recorder's Court on October 18 and Carson appealed after being found guilty. He is under bond of $1,500.

27h(2) 1950 Oklahoma

11-Year-Old Negro Girl Raped In Oklahoma; White Man Is Charged

Okemah, Okla.—An eleven year old Negro girl was reported to have been raped by Ernest D. Heflin, a white man, Sunday afternoon and night, September 10, after picking her up about 3 and a half miles north of Weleetka. She and her two brothers were going from her grandparents' home south on U. S. 75 to get something from a neighbor's home.

Preliminary hearing was set in the case of September 19 in justice of the peace court. No bond was made at the arrainment a few days ago when Heflin who lives in Seminole, pled "not guilty" to a first degree rape charge.

Facts brought out in the case reveal that the girl was brought to Okemah and put on the bus instead of Henryetta as first thought. The girl was not acquainted with the town and as a result had made the mistaken identity of the town.

Heflin was placed back in county jail to await preliminary hearing on September 19.

27h(2)

The man is reportedly married and the father of three children. He allegedly raped the small girl at the point of a gun east of highway 75 on a county road after he forced her two brothers out of the car. He allegedly forced his attentions on her after this time.

The medical examiner reported that there were physical evidences of rape. [redacted]

The search was started for the man shortly after he forced the boys out and his liscense number was obtained by the volunteers from Weleetka and he was traced to Seminole.

Okla.

There he was picked up by officers and turned over to officials here on Tuesday.

His parents and wife were present at the arrainment.

The charges were prepared and filed by Assistant County Attorney Austin O. Webb in the absence of County Attorney Coleman Nolen.

FARM GIRL, 19, FOUND SLAIN IN LOVERS' LANE

Tribune

Sun. 6-18-50

Chicago, Ill.

St. Clairsville, O., June 17 [Special]—Alma Montag, 19, daughter of a farm couple living near here, was found beaten to death and apparently raped this morning in a field beside a lovers' lane 3 miles from St. Clairsviile.

Sherif's officers arrested for questioning a Bellaire, O., cab driver last seen in Miss Montag's company.

The body was found by a St. Clairsville restaurant operator, Joe Drydek, and his sister, Pauline, as they were en route to work from their country home at 6 a. m.

27h(2)

Tells of Seeing Taxi

Drydek told authorities that he saw an empty taxicab parked on the lonely road about 1 a. m. as he was driving Pauline, another sister, Amg, and Lucille Dougherty home. He said he passed the spot a few minutes later en route to his own home and the taxi had gone.

He said he noticed it the first time only because a flash of lightning illuminated the countryside.

Tribune

Drydek this morning noticed the body, lying face down in a rain-drenched field about 200 yards from the road. The victim's dress was torn and disarranged and her face had been beaten with a heavy weapon. Pieces of her dress also were found on a barbed wire fence beside the road, indicating the body probably had been carried from the road to where it was found.

Sun. 6-18-50

Went to Movie with Friend

Coroner Richard Niple said preliminary examination indicated the girl had been raped.

In tracing Miss Montag's activities of last night, sherif's officers learned she had attended a movie in Bellaire with a girl friend, Lova Pugh, and that they had taken a cab home. Miss Pugh said the driver took her home first and continued on with Miss Montag, presumably headed for her home.

When questioned the cab driver said the two girls had been his fares but insisted he had taken Miss Montag home also. He explained scratches on his arms by saying he later had a flat tire and received the scratches in changing tires.

Chicago, Ill.

Seek Traces of Struggle

Examination of his taxi revealed no evdience that a fight had taken place in it. Authorities said Miss Montag apparently had fought a terrific battle before succumbing to her slayer.

She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Montag of the little settlement of Croft Run near here. She was graduated last year from Bellaire High school.

Battered Body Of Girl Found In Muddy Field

Advertiser

BELLAIRE, OHIO, June 17—(U.P.)—The ravished, battered body of a 19-year-old girl was discovered in a muddy field beside a lovers' lane near here Saturday and police arrested a taxicab driver for questioning.

27h(2)

The body of attractive Alma Montag, of nearby Troft Run, was found lying face down in the rain-swept field. Her clothing was torn and disarranged and police said she had been raped.

Authorities were holding George Doty, 32, for investigation.

Acting Belmont County, Coroner Richard Niple said the 1949 graduate of Bellaire High School had been dead about six hours. He said evidence indicated the girl put up a terrific struggle before her attacker subdued her by beating her head with a blunt instrument.

Kentucky Girl Reports Rape At Cincinnati

Courier Journal

Cin. 7-7-50

Says She Was Attacked After Accepting Ride

Louisville, Ky.

Cincinnati, July 6 (AP)—A young woman identifying herself as Marie Williamson, 19, Drift, Ky., told police she was criminally attacked late last night on a lonely road west of Cincinnati.

An examination at General Hospital verified her statement, Police Lt. Henry Royer and Patrolman William Weitzel said.

A County policeman said he saw Miss Williamson collapse on the sidewalk in the northwestern part of the city. He called the local officers.

27h(2)

Miss Williamson was quoted by the officers as saying she accepted an automobile ride in the downtown part of Cincinnati at 10 o'clock last night. She said she was taken into the country and attacked.

Ohio

The girl told police she jumped from the automobile near where she collapsed. She gave the officers the car license numbers, but said she could not remember the initials on the plates.

Miss Williamson said she is a waitress.

Waitress is slain in bus terminal

News

27h(2)

CLEVELAND, Nov. 30—(AP)—A red-haired divorcee waitress in the Greyhound restaurant here was raped and beaten to death early today.

Mrs. Pansy Whitley, 38, blood-smeared and gasping for breath was found by two employes of the terminal in the locker room on Chester Avenue. She died before a police ambulance arrived.

Homicide detectives were seeking an itinerant seen loitering around the terminal a short time before the crime was discovered.

Mrs. Whitley obviously had been raped, Homicide Detectives Larry Doran and George Gackowski said. Her diamond engagement ring and wedding band were ripped from her fingers and her wrist watch was missing.

The detectives said the victim originally came from Charlotte, S. C., and has a 15-year-old son living there with his father from whom Mrs. Whitley was divorced two years ago.

27h (2) 1950

Pennsylvania

8178

Doctor Accused of Attempted Rape

Black Dispatch

Okla. 5-20-50

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — The wealthy owner of a convalescent home in Roslyn, Pa., was held in $3,000 bail last week for court by a magistrate charged with attacking a nurse, who applied for a position in answer to an advertisement.

Maurice Ricks, 56, co-owner and manager of the Roslyn Convalescent Home, was held by Magistrate K. R. Knox, on charges of indecent exposure and assault and attempted rape. He was released on bail. He was arrested on a warrant sworn out by Miss Evelyn Spencer, 42, a practical nurse.

Okla 27h (2)

The nurse reported she answered an ad in a Sunday newspaper and after an intetrview she was accepted but refused to take the job at the salary offered her. She left and returned home. Shortly after her return home, Miss Spencer received a tetlephone call stating that her terms would be accepted and that someone would pick her up at home.

Ricks came for her in the evening, according to the nurse, and put her suitcase in his car. After riding a short time, the nurse said Ricks slowed down his car and started to tussle with her with his free hand.

Miss Sper · said she brushed away the m...'s arm. He then stopped the car and after threatening her, attempted to assault her sexually.

When she threatened to call the police, Miss Spencer said Ricks arranged his clothing and drove her to the home.

27h(2) 1950

Tennessee

8179

White Youth Assails Two Negro Girls

Memphis, Tenn

World

Mozella Gordon graduating 8th grade pupil of LaRose School, and 1950 Spelling Bee champion, was one of the two girls viciously allegedly assailed by a white youth last Saturday afternoon as they headed to the grocery store. The other girl was Ruby Jackson 18.

27h(2)

Mozella, 14-year-old daughter of Mrs. Odena Gordon, of 1062 Beach Place, said that she, Rubye, and her sister Hattie Gorden, were on their way to a neighborhood We-On-A Grocery Store on the corner of McLemore and College when the boy in a crazed manner came up to them and made a vicious attack without any provocation on their part. He allegedly struck the Gordon Girl in the mouth with his fist, causing her lip to swell, and then turned to Rubye and lauded a blow in the chest. She dodged, is the only reason she wasn't struck in the face, Mozella asserted.

Tenn 6-9

"After hiting us, he just stood and gave a crazy grin, "the girls stated. "Then he ran toward his home on College."

The girls said that he is a neighborhood boy who lives on College Street. They reported the case to police. Officers came and took a report on the case, but Mrs. Gordon, mother, said that she hadn't heard anymore from the officers since Saturday.

27h(2)

Memphis, Tenn

Hattie Gordon, 26-year-old slightly deaf sister of Mozella, was not attacked. She said the boy drew his fist back in a threatening manner in case the girls trier to defend themselves.

World

Fri. 6-9-50

White Youth Indicted For Rape Of Mother

Informer Sat 7-15-50

Houston, Texas

HOUSTON — Richard Ward, 19-year-old white youth of Houston was indicted by the Harris grand jury, last Friday for on a rape charge of a 21-year-old Negro mother. No bond had been fived Monday.

The grand jury began investigation Friday June 30, into the charge that Ward kidnapped the woman on a pretex of giving her a job, May 26, and carried her into three counties where she said he attacked her three times.

27h(2)

The case was presented to the grand jury by Attorney Ragan of the District Attorney's office. Ward had denied that the relationship with the woman was forced when he was arrested soon after the attack and questioned by Attorney A. C. Winborn. He claimed then that the relationship was an affair of six months standing and that the woman told on him because they remained out too late the night of the attack.

Ward was arrested in Madisonville where the woman escaped from him after he ran out of gas. He was picked up, however, on a charge of stealing his employer's truck, and was returned to Houston where the charges of rape were made before Justice of the Peace W. C. Ragan. The woman who said that she tried to make a charge before Madisonville police stated that the officers there did not believe her and told her to get out of town. She said that Negro citizens there bought her some clothes to replace the soiled ones and paid her bus fare to Houston. One of the officers carried her to the bus station, the woman said and stated that the officer told her she was lying on "that white boy."

Ward, who according to police, has always been a problem child from juvenile age, had been handled by police officers on numerous occasions, He refused to talk to Informer reporters.

Gunman Robs Cafe, Kidnaps, Rapes Woman

27h(2)

Morning News

Dallas Texas

A gunman Tuesday night robbed an Elm Street cafe of $51, then kidnaped the woman manager and raped her in the Texas & Pacific railroad yards at Houston and Pacific.

Wed 9-27-50

After the middle-aged woman was freed by the bandit, she called police from the T&P freight office.

She told Detective Ted Wells that the bandit came into the small grill in the 900-block of Elm and sat down at the counter.

"Lady", he said, "I haven't eaten in two days. Give me the money in the cash register. It's insured and you won't lose anything."

The woman said she put the money—$51—on the counter. The bandit got up and an automatic pistol protruded from his pocket.

"Come on and go with me, and I don't mean maybe," he told the woman.

The woman said she locked up the cafe and walked out on Elm with him. With the bandit holding the gun against her side, she said, they walked down Elm to Lamar, then turned north on Lamar to the railroad tracks.

Rape Trial of Three Youths Scheduled to Start Monday

Dallas Texas

27h(2)

Rape cases against three youths charged with attacking two 19-year-old girls in a field next to Abrams Road last March are set for trial Monday in visiting Judge Penn Jackson's special Criminal District Court.

Morning News

Defendants are Clifford Dan Hendon, 17, Loyd [illegible] Bowles, 20, and J. W. Connally, 17. One of their victims suffered a broken jaw, allegedly during the rape and beating.

Mon. 12-4-50

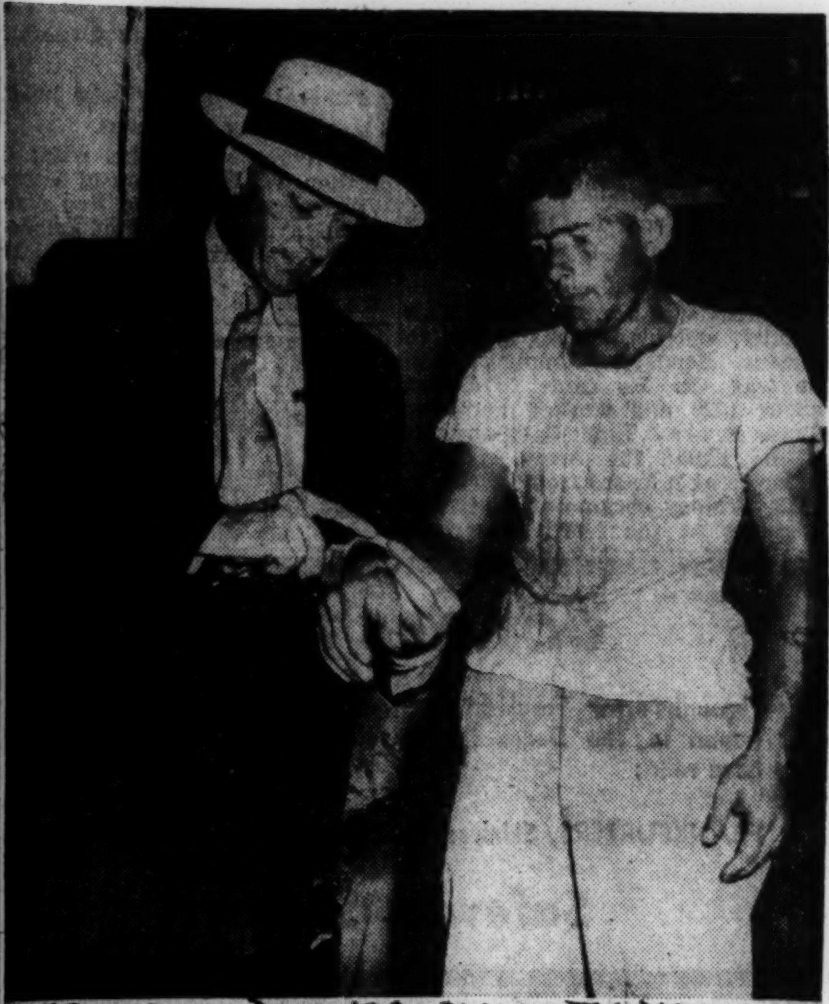
At a bond hearing shortly after the three were arrested, one of the victims said the girls had accepted a ride home with the trio after their escorts had left them in a Worth Street tavern without a way home.

Instead of taking them home, the girl testified, they drove to a point north of Northwest Highway on Abrams Road and parked.

She said the three youths took turns raping her and the other victim in the back seat of the car. Bowles, Hendon and Connally have been free on $8,000 bond each since that preliminary hearing.

Also set for trial Monday before Judge Jackson, is the case of Harold Thomas Fallwell, 19, under indictment for rape of two young girls at Fair Park on separate occasions—one in October, 1949, and one in April of this year.

8181



Dallas, Texas Morning News

—Dallas News Staff Photo.

RAPE ATTEMPT CHARGED

Kenneth Clary, 26-year-old ice cream peddler charged Friday with the attempted rape of a 5-year-old Dallas County girl, was transferred from the city jail to the county jail by Deputy Constable W. H. Bietendorf, shown here handcuffing his prisoner. Clary lured his victim away from her playmates on the Colonial schoolgrounds Tuesday and attacked her. He was found with the child by some older girls.

Fri. 7-22-50

Rape Case Admitted By Peddler

Dallas, Texas

A 26-year-old ice cream peddler was arrested Wednesday for trying to rape Paula Poston, 5-year-old Dallas County girl, in South Dallas Tuesday afternoon.

The peddler is Kenneth Cruce Clary, who came to Dallas from Clinton, Mo., six weeks ago. At headquarters he admitted in a signed statement that he was the man police wanted.

"I've made a mistake. It's been bothering me, and I want to get it off my chest," Clary told officers when arrested, Detective Capt. J. Will Fritz said.

Morning News 7-20-50

Clary told Fritz and Detective E. R. Beck that he first saw the child on the Colonial School playgrounds, Pennsylvania and Wendelkin. He gave her some ice cream, he said, and took her to a spot where a depression in the ground lets in light through the school's basement windows.

He said he and the child were discovered there by two older girls. He said he gave them ice cream for a promise not to tell what they saw.

He was picked up by a description furnished by all three girls.

Paula had been playing on and around the schoolgrounds while her mother visited nearby at the home of Mrs. James Henry, 2206 Pennsylvania.

At City Hall, Clary said he had been accused of following small girls around on schoolgrounds in Clinton when he was younger. He said he had been sterilized at his mother's insistence.

Late Wednesday, Fritz said he would charge the man with either attempted rape or aggravated assault on a juvenile, a felony under the state's new law against sex offenders.

Rape Attempt Made on Girl

Morning News

Dallas, Texas

Police searched widely Tuesday for a young ice cream peddler who tried to rape Paula Poston, 5-year-old Dallas County girl, who was visiting in South Dallas.

Paula and her mother, Mrs. Frances Poston of Route 3, were visiting at the home of Mrs. James Henry, 2206 Pennsylvania. Shortly after noon, the attacker lured the girl away from the yard with promises of ice cream. He was found with the child near Colonial Park by two older girls, Detectives E. R. Beck and T. L. Baker said.

The attack and search came on the heels of a brutal assault Sunday on Mrs. Stanford L. Clem, 31-year-old mother, who was sleeping at the bedside of her ailing 14-month-old son at Bradford Memorial Hospital.

Wed. 7-19-50

An unknown assailant entered the room where the mother and son were sleeping. He beat her with a blunt instrument. She suffered a fractured skull, deep cuts and a broken elbow and was admitted to Methodist Hospital.

Although they did not rule it out police did not believe that the two attacks were connected.

The Sunday beating offered few clues and no known motive. Mrs. Clem's purse, on a table beside her when she was attacked, was not touched. Detective W. L. Brewster said the assault may have been the work of a sadist.

Beck said the child attacker sells ice cream in residential districts from a 3-wheel bicycle cart. He was described by the girls who saw him as having a burr haircut and decayed front teeth.

He was about 20 to 25, they said.

Rape Trial Jury Still Three Short

Morning News

27h(2)

Four deputy sheriffs rounded up talesmen in the Joe Greer rape case late Thursday, but only two of them were accepted for the jury at a night session in Criminal Dist. Judge Henry King's court.

A total of nine men had been chosen to try Greer when court shut down at 10 p.m. Judge King ordered them locked up and expressed hope that additional talesmen would produce a complete jury Friday.

Fri. 10-13-50

The original 70-man panel of prospective jurors had been exhausted when King recessed court at 5:40 p.m. and ordered the deputies to go into the county for talesmen.

Dallas, Texas

Greer, a 19-year-old Negro, is on trial for the rape of a 31-year-old white housewife in the 3800 block of Commerce Street the night of Feb. 10, 1949.

Jury selection in the case started Wednesday, when four men were accepted for service. Greer's court-appointed attorney, Harvey Lindsay, has made application for a suspended sentence if the jury finds Greer guilty.

Asst. Dist. Attys. Harold McCracken and Ray Stokes said during examination of several panel members that they probably would ask the death penalty.

Greer was arrested a few minutes after the offense was committed, wearing a coat that had been described by the woman. His face bore fresh scratches which the victim told police she had inflicted. Greer has been in jail ever since his arrest.

Dallas Rapist Arrested for Kidnaping Girl

Dallas, Texas

Morning News

27h(2)

James Johnson Neely Jr., 39, sentenced to life from Dallas for raping young schoolgirls, was arrested in Trinidad, Colo., Tuesday night for kidnaping a 10-year-old schoolgirl and forcing her into his car at gunpoint.

Neely, who fled a Huntsville prison farm Aug. 31, admitted the kidnaping charge, Trinidad sheriff's deputies said.

When he was taken into custody, Neely said: "I'm the guy who kidnaped the little girl." He was arrested by Deputy Sheriff John Sebben on a lonely country road thirty-one miles northeast of Trinidad, the Associated Press said.

He was twice sentenced to the Texas penitentiary for a life term in 1944 and 1945. A half-dozen Dallas schoolgirls, all 10 to 13 years old, identified Neely as the man who ravished them. He was caught in Oak Cliff as he let one of his victims out of his car within in a block of her home.

Victim of Rape Says Fallwell Throttled Her

Dallas, Texas

Morning News

A 19-year-old Dallas girl testified Tuesday that Harold Thomas Fallwell, 19, had choked her unconscious and raped her last April 11 in the shrubbery near the Fine Arts Building at Fair Park.

She was the first witness in Fallwell's rape trial, which began late Tuesday before visiting District Judge Penn Jackson of Cleburne. The defendant is under indictment for another rape at Fair Park last October, but that case has not yet come to trial.

27h(2)

The slender, dark-haired girl said she had been introduced to Fallwell earlier the same evening at the skating rink at Fair Park. She said she accompanied him around the Midway, and consented when he offered to walk home with her, a few blocks away.

Texas

Not far from the Grand Avenue entrance, she testified, Fallwell threw her to the ground, pinioned her down and twisted her arm, with the words "I'll break your arm if you fight me."

Wed. 12-6-50

She screamed and struggled, she said, and he choked her to temporary unconsciousness. A few moments later, she said, she came to again, and he throttled her out again.

When she came to a second time, said the victim, Fallwell was undoing her clothes. She said he grabbed her by the arm, twisted it behind her, and made her walk with him to a more secluded spot, where he raped her.

The girl admitted to Prosecutors Jimmie MacNicoll and Harold McCracken that she had not reported the incident to police until the following day. She said she "didn't know what to do about it" when she got back to her room, but that she had cried most of the night.

8181

27h(2) 1950 Virgin Islands

8182

Missing Girl, 12, Found Dead, Raped

Post Herald

[illegible] 7-27-50

ST. THOMAS, Virgin Islands, July 26 (U.P.)—The raped body of 12-year-old Gloria Galloway, a Puerto Rican girl missing since Saturday, was found today in a cane field near St. Croix.

Ex-Policeman Held in Assault Is Ruled Sane

Post

Jan. 1-24-50

Francis E. Dodson, 31, Arlington policeman who is charged with invading a home at gunpoint and attempting to rape a young housewife, has been declared sane by Virginia state psychiatrists.

Arlington

Arlington County Circuit Court officials said the report on Dodson's mental condition came from Dr. Joseph Blalock, head of Southwestern State Hospital at Marion, Va., where Dodson has been under observation since early November.

27h (2)

Dr. Blalock wrote that Dodson "from our observation," is not insane and has not been insane or psychotic since his admission."

Va.

Judge Walter T. McCarthy said Dodson will probably be returned to Arlington some time this week.

However, prospects for an early trial are dim, Dodson's right leg shattered by a bullet during the housebreaking incident, will require a second operation, doctors at Marion informed the court, and he prefers that it be perfomed in Arlington.

Dodson was indicted for housebreaking and attempted rape in the gunpoint, forced entrance into the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Jack Bartels, at 2810-B S. 16th rd., last September 29.

According to police, Dodson forced Bartels and his wife to disrobe, then locked Bartels in a closet while he made indecent advances to Mrs. Bartels, attractive 33-year-old mother of two daughters.

Dodson was shot in the right leg by a neighbor, Air Force Col. William E. Elder of 2812-A S. 16th rd. as he tried to escape.

Washington Woman Had Been Attacked Before Violent Death, Police Believe

Afro-American 27h (2) Va.

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—Police are holding a suspect in the attack-murder of a young woman identified as Mrs. Charlotte Meekins, 29, whose half-nude and lifeless body was found in a pond near Belhaven Country Club golf course, south of Alexandria, Friday night.

Near the scene, where the body was found, police reported that they found evidence of a terrific struggle on the blood-spattered ground, where the victim had apparently fought for her life.

The circumstances were almost identical to those in which Miss Edna Crump, a Washington dancer, was found murdered in an alley in Washington, last spring.

1-28-50

Suspect's Name Withheld

In that case, police quickly traced her assailant to a young student with whom she had been last seen in a restaurant near the scene.

Baltimore

The suspect being held by police in Alexandria was also a man last seen with Mrs. Meekins a short time before her body was found.

Because police had not yet obtained sufficient evidence to justify charges, his name is being withheld.

Employee Finds Body

The body was discovered early Saturday morning by Edward Clift of Jefferson Manor, an employee of the country club, who was working on the golf course.

A trail leading from a nearby road indicated that the victim and her assailant had, in all probabilities, crossed a fence and walked to the scene where the alleged murder took place.

Because of these circumstances, police were of the opinion that the young woman was in the company of some one whom she apparently knew and trusted.

Victim's Husband Away

She is survived by her grandmother, Mrs. Lottie Craig, of 528 South Pitt St., who reared her from a child. Other relatives are Mrs. Helen Shanklin, 319 Princess St.; and a husband, Charles H. Meekins, who was last reported in prison.

She was last seen by a friend, Mrs. Mamie McGuire, who told police that she had seen Mrs. Meekins in a lunch room on Princess St. with the suspect, whom she later identified after his arrest.

27h (2) Va.

MRS. CHARLOTTE MEEKINS

Matron's Death Linked to That of Bov. 8. in D.C.

Signs Near Pond Show Victim Put Up Fight; Police in Two Areas Join in Investigation

WASHINGTON

A sex fiend who criminally assaults and then drowns his victims has struck for the second time in the Washington area.

Afro-American

Local police are watching developments in the efforts of Alexandria, Va., police to track down the fiend who criminally attacked and murdered 29-year-old Charlotte Meekins Saturday in the hope it will lead to the slayer of an eight-year-old lad in Rock Creek Park.

1-28-50

A member of the detective bureau, Fairfax County, Va., said late Wednesday that two suspects are now being held in the brutal attack-murder of Mrs. Meekins, 406 Princess St.

Baltimore

Mrs. Meekins's half-nude and lifeless body was found in a pond near Belhaven Country Club golf course, south of Alexandria, last Friday.

Near the scene where the attractive woman's body was found, police said, was evidence that she had put up a terrific struggle to save her life.

Since the body of Mrs. Meekins was discovered early last Saturday by Edward Clift, an employee of the country club, police have picked up several suspects, but have released all but two, whose names are being withheld.

Interest was heightened in the case here because the circumstances were almost identical to those in which Harrison McKinley Walker met death last summer.

The child, who was lured from his home, was attacked, and his body was deposited in a stream in Rock Creek Park where it was discovered after several days search.

In this case police found evidence that the victim had been abused about 15 yards from the spot where his body was found and later dragged to the water's edge and submerged.

The circumstances under which Mrs. Meekins met death were almost identical. Clothing and blood-stains on the ground told a grim story of how she had been attacked and later dragged to the pond where her body was disposed,

Current Theory

Alexandria police are still at a loss in learning how the woman traversed the distance from a Princess St. restaurant where she was last seen with a male companion to the scne of Southern Alexandria where the country club is located.

They are certain, however, that the trip was made by auto and that she was accompanied by someone whom she knew and trusted.

Tracks from the roadway to the spot where she was slain indicate that she went this far without force.

In Alexandria

Rape Suspect Shot Fleeing From Alley

Post

Alexandria police yesterday arrested a 29-year-old laborer on a charge of rape after an early-morning chase in which the suspect was shot in the arm.

The man, James S. Smith, 607 North Columbus St., Alexandria, was treated at Alexandria Hospital, then jailed pending a hearing in Police Court today at 10 a. m.

He was charged with the rape of a 39-year-old married woman from Lynchburg, Va., who was visiting relatives in Alexandria. Smith denied the charge, contending the woman [illegible] submitted in an alley in the rear of the [illegible] block of Wythe st.

Alexandria police were called by a woman residing near the alley, who complained of screaming and cursing. Three policemen found the woman lying in the alley with her clothes disarranged.

They said Smith, who was near her, fled when he saw the police. Pvt. Donald Thomas said he fired two warning shots, then winged Smith with the third.

The woman did not require hospital treatment, although police said she was in a state of shock. Police said the contents of her purse were strewn about the alley, indicating she had put up a struggle.

Suspect in Girl Slaying May Have Borrowed Shells From Mother

By the Associated Press

DANVILLE, Va., Feb. 4.—Marian Lloyd, 14, shot and then raped yesterday on a lonesome road, may have been killed with a shotgun shell borrowed from her mother.

G. T. Hailey.

Police said today her admitted slayer Farmhand George Thomas Hailey, only hours before the shooting had borrowed four 12-gauge shotgun shells from Mrs. William A. Lloyd "to hunt crows with." 2-4-50

Marian was felled by a blast from the gun.

27h(2)

In July, 1949, her slayer had been described by a judge as the victim of "a terrible miscarriage of justice."

Va

Was 14 at Time.

Judge George B. Patton of Greensboro, N. C., gave the description when Hailey was brought before him to answer a robbery charge after serving 10 years in Virginia prisons for a theft he committed when he was 14 years old.

A Baptist minister, the Rev Ralph Bellwood of Halifax, received Hailey on probation from Judge Patton and got the youth a job on a farm near Clarkton, Va.

Hailey's employer, William Carr, held a gun on him yesterday while police hurried to the scene to arrest him for the rape-murder.

The Lloyd girl was on her way home from Ellis Creek School, in which she was a seventh-grade pupil, when she was attacked.

Moved From Halifax.

Sheriff J. A. Tune said Hailey told him he approached Marian as she walked along the isolated road leading to her farm home and made improper advances to her. She resisted and then, Sheriff Tune quoted Hailey as saying, he struck her with the butt of his shotgun. Afterwards she still put up a fight, so he shot her, dragged her body to roadside clump of brush, and then raped her. He said he thought she was still alive.

Hailey was first lodged in Halifax jail last night, then transferred here for safekeeping.

Girl, 18, Found Beaten, Slain in Field; Cabbie-Friend Held

St. Clairsville, June 17 (AP).—Eighteen-year-old Alma Montag of nearby Croft Run—victim of a beating and apparent rape—was killed last night in a secluded field during a howling rainstorm.

The body of the girl was found today by a restaurant owner and his sister, who told authorities they saw a parked taxi near the scene during a near-cloudburst.

27h(2)

Deputy Sheriff Windsor Jones said a 32-year-old cab driver, George Doty, had been arrested for questioning, but had not been charged.

Post Va

Joe Drydek, the restaurant owner, told how a flash of lightning momentarily lit up a lonely road, known as a "lover's lane," showing a taxi, its dome light on and doors open.

6-18

Drydek did not investigate. But this morning he and his sister, Pauline, were heading toward St. Clairsville. About opposite where the cab was parked they saw what appeared to be a girl in a bathing suit lying in the field.

Drydek walked into the field and found the body of Miss Montag. Her face had been beaten and identification from her features was virtually impossible.

But, said Deputy Jones, the girl was wearing a high school class ring that provided identification.

Jones said authorities still are trying to trace the movements of the girl last night. He said she was a friend of the cab driver held for questioning.

Prosecutor William Irwin said the Montag girl, daughter of a farmer, came to Bellaire last night, met Lova Puch, a friend, and hired a cab driven by Doty.

Irwin said Doty, who maintains his innocence, admitted picking up the girls to drive them home. He said he drove the Pugh girl home, then took Miss Montag home and drove back.

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2 White Boys Held for Jury

27h(2)

Accused of Attacking Mother, 19, in Va

Va

WASHINGTON

Two white youths have been held for grand jury action on charges of criminally assaulting Mrs. Barbara Scott, 19-year-old mother of a 2-year-old son, by Fairfax trial Magistrate Harry Carrico. Afro-American

The youths, who are free under $2,500 bond each, are Carlton L. Murphy, 22, of the 500 block S. Henry St., and Thomas M. Lowery, 21, of R.F.D. 1, Alexandria.

Prosecution's Charge

Date 7-29-50

During a preliminary hearing before Magistrate Carrico on Monday, H. Wise Kelly Jr., assistant commonwealth attorney, charged that the youths impersonated CID (Army's Criminal Investigation Division) officials.

They then forced Mrs. Scott and her companion, James Almond, 22, of the 100 block U St., N.W., into their car early Wednesday, July 12, and drove to Engleside, just south of Alexandria, where they allegedly attacked Mrs. Scott several times, according to police.

Defense counsel William Moncure claimed that Mrs. Scott, who is divorced, submitted several times to both youths after an argument with Almond.

Mother's Story

The young mother, who lives at the Dunbar Hotel, told police that she was attacked by the two youths several times, five times by Murphy and twice by Lowery.

The case is similar to one which occurred recently in Martinsville, Va., for which seven colored youths are slated to be electrocuted, four on July 28, and three on Aug. 4, for the alleged criminal attack on a white woman over 18 months ago.

White Man, 25, Held in Attack of Girl. 16

Afro American Date 9-23-50 Va

27h(2)

SMITHFIELD, Va. — Accused of criminally attacking a 16-year-old Smithfield High School girl, William Whitley, 25, white, was bound over to the grand jury, Tuesday, and released under $3,-$3,500 bond after he waived preliminary hearing in Trial Justice Court.

The attack allegedly took place Sept. 1 between 7 and 7:30 p.m., after Whitley, a bridegroom of only two weeks, came to the home of the girl's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Collins, and asked that the girl be permitted to go to his home and sit with his ill mother.

The Collinses, who had known the Whitley family for years, readily agreed to permit their daughter to accompany the young man in his car to the home of his mother, after he explained that he and his wife wanted to go out.

He came for the Collins girl, he explained, because he did not wish to leave his ill mother alone. However, the girl never got to the Whitley home, the young bridegroom reportedy carried her to various places on the pretext that he had to stop there before going home.

According to the report, he took the girl away in his car about 5:30 p.m. and whiled away the time until about 7:30, when he stopped the car the last time in a secluded wooded section on the pretext that he had to see his brother who was nearby.

He went into the woods a short distance, the girl said, and returned to the car with a gun. When she tried to get out of the car and run, he grabbed her, held the gun on her, dragged her into the woods and committed the attack, keeping her there some 45 minutes.

He then brought the girl back to her home and went his way. When she got into the house, the girl began to cry and haltingly told her parents the story.

The father then got into his car, went to Whitley's home and asked him what he had done and why.

Whitley was quoted as admitting the attack, stating first that he did not know why he did it, then adding that he had been "looking at her" for a long time and did what he had been planning for some time.

Initial investigation of the case was made by Samuel Tucker, Emporia NAACP attorney who assisted the Commonwealth's attorney in the prosecution. Further investigation was made by other NAACP officials and the Negro Organization Society.

27h(2)

Participating in the later probe were Roland D. Ealey of Richmond, also an NAACP staff attorney, who is associated with Mr. Tucker in the case; W. Lester Banks, executive secretary of the NAACP State Conference, and G. James Gilliam, NOS executive secretary.

Martinsville Scene Of New Rape Charge

MARTINSVILLE, Va.—A 21-year-old white man, Vernon Frith, is being held in the Henry County jail here on a charge of raping a 29-year-old housewife, the mother of two children. Martinsville was projected into the national spotlight recently when seven Negroes were sentenced to death for the rape of a white woman.

27h(2)

Sheriff Morton T. Prilliman said the woman told him the following story:

She left the town of Baskett Friday afternoon in a car to go to the town of Franklin. With her were her children and the child of a neighbor.

On the road her car stalled and Frith came by, stopped and offered to aid her. After pushing her car with his, the woman's car was started and then he offered to drive her to Franklin.

Instead, he turned her car around and headed in the opposite direction. Taking a little used road, he stopped her car, dragged her into the woods and raped her. When Frith left, she made her way to a house and phoned the sheriff.

Date 9-16-50

A deputy sheriff, Rural Gusler, said that after the woman telephoned, Frith came into the sheri's office and reported a Negro woman had stuck a gun in his ribs and forced him to drive the her car. Gusler said Frith had been drinking.

Prilliman said there was evidence of a struggle in the place where the woman said she was raped. He added he did not find the gun mentioned by Frith.

Release White Man On Bond In Rape Case

27h(2)

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Vernon Frith, a 21-year-old white man, has been ordered held for the Henry County grand jury on a charge of raping a 26-year-old Negro woman, mother of two children.

Date 11-4-50

Trial Justice M. H. MacBryde ordered Frith held for the grand jury, which will meet in January, after a preliminary hearing.

At that hearing, the woman testified that Frith assaulted her in a wood in an isolated section of the county last September 6. She said Frith volunteered to drive her car after she had trouble with it.

Frith has been released on a $10,000 bond which was supplied by his parents.

27h(2) 1950 Virginia 8184

Attack Charged by Baby Sitter

27h(2) Va

White Father of 2 Under $3,500 Bond

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va.—Thomas Elkins Jr., white, 28, of this city, was bound over to the grand jury Friday, Aug. 11, under $3,500 bond on charges of criminally attacking his baby sitter ~~in an auto on~~ the grounds of the University of Virginia on July 23.

The bond was set following a preliminary hearing on the case, held in Albermarle County Trial Justice Court. The grand jury will meet next on Oct. 2, at which time the case is to be presented by Commonwealth's Attorney Willie Fife.

Afro American

The victim, Mrs. Louise Jefferson, 23, wife of Carl O. Jefferson, 25, of 708 Page St., testified that she was a baby sitter for Elkins and his wife and had worked at his home on two previous occasions.

Sat 9-9-50

Father Of Two Children

On that night, Mrs. Jefferson testified, Elkins came for her in his car, as usual, about 9 p.m. carried her to his apartment where she sat with his two children while Elkins and his wife and another couple went out. They remained away from the apartment until about 1 a.m.

Elkins then took her in his car, also as usual, to take her to her home, but instead, she testified, he carried her in the car to the grounds of the University of Virginia, near an old woodshed where, after a violent struggle, the attack took place.

His desires accomplished, she said, the man then carried her to her home and let her out of the car. As soon as she got into the house, she told her husband what had taken place. He told his mother, who lives on the first floor of their home, and they called police.

Sheriff Given Details

That same night, she went with Deputy Sheriff Smith over the route taken by Elkins, the spot at which the crime allegedly was committed and explained to the sheriff the details leading up to and during the attack. She was later examined by a local physician.

Elkins was later arrested and held under $3,500 bond for his appearance in Trial Justice Court. The same bond was continued following the preliminary hearing on Friday.

Mr. Jefferson, the victim's husband, works every day in the week with the exception of half-day off on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Martin A. Martin of the Richmond law firm of Hill, Martin and Robinson, employed by the husband to assist in the prosecution of Elkins, sat in on the hearing as an observer, but did not assist in the prosecution.

8186

Tuskegee Institute
Report on, Sent Press

HERE'S LYNCH RECORD FOR 1950

California News

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—According to records compiled in the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, 2 persons were lynched during this year. Recorded lynchings for the past 5 years were: 1950, 2; 1949, 3; 1948, 2; 1947, 1; 1946, 6; total 14.

One of the victims was Charlie Hurst, white, 29-year-old rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair County, Alabama. He was mortally wounded on February 22, in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car. His 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded. Hurst had previously told his son that "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." There were no charges agains the victim. It seems that the mob got the "wrong man."

Tri. 1-5-51

The other victims was Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay, Meriwether County, Georgia. His body was found on August 18 in a creek near the Flint River, by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about illegal whiskey traffic.

San Francisco, Calif.

Legal Punishment for Lynching

During the week of March 16, Greenville County, South Carolina paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such payment.

1-5-5

On April 4, in the Calhoun County, Mississippi, Circuit Court, James Moore, aged 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Mississippi, on July 2, 1949. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well respected tenant farmer in that area.

On June 28, in the St. Clair County, Alabama Circuit Court, Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24 years old, white, was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in the slaying of Charlie Hurst of Pell City, Alabama, on Feb. 22,1950. He was later released on a $3000 appeal bond. Three other men indicted for same crime were released on a $5000 bond. Another person was tried and cleared.

On Sept. 7, in the Meriwether County, Georgia Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for the slaying of Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, Negro of near Gay, Meriwether County, Ga., on August 18, 1950. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

Lynchings were prevented in at least 7 instances—6 in the South and 1 in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, 3 were white and 4 were Negroes.

Two lynchings in 1950, says Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE — Two persons were lynched in 1950, the annual report from President F. D. Patterson, of Tuskegee Institute, showed this week.

Tribune

The number was the second lowest since the all-time of one in 1947. Tuskegee began keeping the record in 1946, a year which had six lynchings.

Oct. 1-11-51

1950's victims were: Charlie Hurst, a white man, operator of a rolling store in Pell City, St. Clair county, Ala. Hurst was mortally wounded on Feb. 22 in his front yard by a group of men who were not masked.

Los Angeles

They had tried to force him into their car, wounding also in the process of the attempted abduction Hurst's 19-year-old son. Before he died, Hurst allegedly told his son, "It looks like the Kluxers are after me. "Officials said that the mob erred and got the wrong man.

Calif.

Second victim was a Negro, Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, alias Clinton Walker, 40, of Meriweather county, Ga. Walker's body was found Aug. 18 in a creek. He had been shot to death by the three men for whom he worked because he knew too much about the illegal whiskey traffic.

Lynchings were prevented in at least 7 instances the Tuskegee report stated. Six were in the south, one in the north. Of persons saved from mobs, three were white, four Negroes.

On June 28, an Alabama Circuit Court sentenced Charles Carlisle, Jr., 24, white, to five years in prison for his part in the slaying of Hurst, the Pell City white man. He was later released on a $3000 appeal bond. Three other men, indicted for the same crime, were released on $5000 bond. Another person was tried and cleared.

On Sept. 7, the Georgia Court sentenced Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn to life and Herbert Dunn to three-to-five years in prison for the lynching of Walker. The men, all white, had pleaded guilty.

During 1950, Greenville county, S. C. also paid the estate of Willie Earle, lynched there in 1946, the minimum sum of $2000, compensation under a South Carolina law providing such payment.

On Nov. 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the lynching of William Turner, 26-year-old white tenant farmer in Meriweather county, Ga. in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

On April 4, a Mississippi Circuit Court found James Moore, 20, white, not guilty in the 1949 slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro tenant farmer. Moore claimed self defense.

There were six lynchings in 1946, one in '47, two in '48, and three in 1949.

TUSKEGEE RELEASE 1950 LYNCHINGS

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynching for the year 1950.

NUMBER OF LYNCHING

According to records compiled in the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute [illegible] persons were lynched this year. Recorded lynchings for the past 5 years were:

Clarion

1950	2
1949	3
1948	2
1947	1
1946	6
Total	14

One of the victims was Charlie Hurst, white, 39-year old rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair County, Alabama. He was mortally wounded on February 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car.

Ohio 8, 51

LEGAL PUNISHMENT FOR LYNCHING

During the week of March 16 Greenville County, South Carolina paid to the estate of Willie Earle lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such payment.

Enterprise

On April 4, in the Calhoun County, Mississippi, Circuit Court, James Moore, age 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcom Wright, Negro, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Mississippi on July 2, 1949. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well respected tenant farmer in that area.

Recorder
Jan. 18-51

On June 28, in the St. Clair County, Ala. Circuit Court. Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24 years old, white, was sentenced to five years in prisin for the part in the slaying of Charlie Hurst of Pell City, Alabama on February 22. 1950. He was later released on a $3,000 appeal bond. Three other men indicted for the same crime were released on a $5,000 bond. Another person was tried and cleared.

On September 7. in the Meriwether County. Georgia Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for the slaying of Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, Negro, of near Gay, Meriwether County, Georgia on Aug. 18, 1950. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

On November 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner, a 26-year-old white tenant farmer of Meriwether County, Georgia in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

LYNCHINGS PREVENTED

Lynchings were prevented in at least 7 instances—6 in the South and 1 in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, 3 were white and 4 were Negroes.

Very truly yours,
F. D. Patterson

Only One Negro Lynched in 1950

[illegible]

TUSKEGEE INST. — (ANP) — The annual report on lynchings compiled by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, lists only two lynchings for the year 1950, one of which was that of a Negro. 6-50

It also reports that 7 lynchings—six in the south and one in the north—were thwarted. Of this number, four Negroes were the intended victims.

Records of the past five years show the same number of lynchings occurred in 1950 as in 1948. Figures for the five year period are: 1950, 2; 1949, 3; 1948, 2; 1947, 1; 1946, 6, making a total of 14 for the period covered.

The Negro lynch victim was Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, alias Clinton Walker, 40-year-old laborer from Gay, Ga. His body was found last Aug. in a creek near the Flint river. He had been shot by three men for whom he worked. His crime? Knowing too much about illegal whiskey traffic.

The white victim seems to have been the "wrong man," since there was nothing against him. He was killed on Feb. 12 by a band of unmasked men. His 19-year-old son was wounded in the fracas.

Tuskegee Lists Two Lynchings For 1950

HOUSTON — The Tuskegee Institute Department of Records and Research lists two lynchings for the year of 1950. Tuskegee lists only those killings that are officially classified as lynchings.

The two 1950 victimes were Charlie Hurst, white, 39-year-old rolling store operator of Pe City, Aabama, and Jack Waker, alias Jack Kendall. als known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay Meriwether County Georgia.

Informer

February 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car. His 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded, Hurst had previously told his son that "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." There were no charges against the victim and it seems that the mob got the "wrong man."

Date 1-6-51

The Negro's body was found on August 18 in a creek near the Flint Mine by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much abut illegal whisky traffic.

Houston

According to the Tuskegee files the recorded lynchings for the past five years were 1950, two; 1949 three; 1948, two; 1947, one and 1946, six, a total of 14 during the past five years.

LEGAL PUNISHMENG FOR LYNCHING

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On November 3 John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner, a 26-year-old white tenant farmer of Meriwether County, Georgia in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

LYNCHINGS PREVENTED

Lynchings were prevented in at least 7 instances — 6 in the South and 1 i the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, 3 were white, and 4 were Negroes.

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2 Lynched in '50; 7 Escape Death

1-6-51

Courier

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Two persons were lynched in the U. S. during 1950, according to the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute. One was Charlie Hurst, 39-year-old white rolling mill operator, of Pell City, Ala., on Feb. 22. The other was Jack Walker, 40-year-old Negro laborer, of Gay, Ga., last Aug. 18.

Date 1-6-51

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Seven persons were saved from mobs in 1950—four Negroes and three whites.

Lynchings Held Down To Two For 1950 Record

Journal and Guide

(Special to Journal and Guide)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —Two persons were lynched in the United States during 1950, at least seven lynchings were prevented, and one county paid a compensation of $2,000 in a lynching case, according to records compiled by the department of records and research, Tuskegee Institute.

Date 1-6-51

In addition one alleged white mobster was sentenced to a prison term of five years, two drew life sentences. another drew three years for a mob slaying, and one white man was electrocuted for the mob murder of a white tenant farmer.

Norfolk, Va.

The total of two lynchings for 1950 was one less than the three for 1949; equal to the number for 1948, one more than the 1947 total of one, and four less than the 1946 figure of six.

THE TOTAL NUMBER of persons who died at the hands of mobs in the five year period, Tuskegee reports, was 14.

Both of the 1950 lynchings occurred in the South, one in Alabama and the other in Georgia. One of the victims was a white man, Charlie Hurst, 39 - year - old rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair county, Ala., and the other was identified as Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay, Meritwether county, Ga.

Hurst was mortally wounded on February 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car.

* * *

HIS 19-YEAR - OLD SON, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded. Hurst had previously told his son "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." There were no charges against the victim. It seems that the mob got the "wrong man."

Walker's body was found on August 18 in a creek near the Flint River by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about illegal whiskey traffic.

During the week of March 16, Greenville county, S. C., paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such payments.

* * *

ON APRIL 14, Calhoun County, Miss., Circuit Court, James Moore, 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Miss., July 2, 1940. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well-respected tenant farmer in the area.

On September 7, in the Meriwether County, Georgia Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for slaying of Jack Walker, on August 18. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

On November 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner, a 26-year-old white tenant farmer near Meriwether County, Ga., in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

Lynchings were prevented in at least seven instances—six in the South and one in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, three were white and four Negro.

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7 Victims Saved From Mob Attack

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Tuskegee Institute announced that according to their records there were two lynchings in the U. S. during 1950. This was one less than 1949. One victim was white.

The Negro victim was Jack Walker, also known as Clinton Walker, and Jack Kendall, a 40-year-old laborer of Gay Meriwether, Ga. His body was found in a creek last August near his home town by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about their illegal whiskey traffic. Two of the men were sentenced to life in prison and the third was given a five-year sentence.

Defender

Date 1-6-51

Seven lynchings were averted in 1950. Six were in the South and one in the North. Four of those saved were Negroes.

Chicago

In March of last year, Greenville County, S. C., paid to the survivors of Willie Earle $2,000. He was lynched in that county in 1947 and his family was paid the minimum sum as compensation under a S. C. law providing for such payment.

James Moore, 20-year-old white youth, was found not guilty in Houston, Miss., in the slaying of a well respected tenant farmer, Malcolm Wright, in July, 1949. Moore pleaded self-defense.

Four of the men who lynched the 1950 white victim are out on bond awaiting trial. One has been sentenced but is free pending his appeal.

Recorded lynchings for the past five years are: 1950, 2; 1949, 3; 1948, 2; 1947, 1; 1946, 6.

Dixie Mobs Lynched 2 in '50, Records Show

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —Two persons were lynched in 1950, according to the records of the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute. One of the victims was colored while the other was white.

The colored victim, Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, 40, a laborer, of Gay Meriwether County, Ga., was found Aug. 18 in a creek near the Flint River by a group of fishermen.

He had been shot to death by the three men for whom he worked. It is said that he knew too much about their illegal whisky traffic.

All Plead Guilty

The three men were Warner Hannah, Jack Dunn and Herbert Dunn. Hannah and Jack Dunn were sentenced to life imprisonment by the Georgia Supreme Court on Sept 7, and Herbert Dunn was given from three to five years.

The men, all white, had pleaded guilty to the lynching.

Charlie Hurst, 39, white, a rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair County, Ala., was fatally wounded in his front yard by a mob of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car.

Because there were no charges of any kind against Hurst, it is believed that the mob got the wrong man. Hurst's 19-year-old son, who came to his father's rescue, also was wounded. The father had told the son, "It looks like the Kluxers are after me."

Suspects Get Bond

One white man, 24, was given five years for part in the lynching and later released on $3,000 bond. Three other men also were released on bond and was freed.

According to Tuskegee's records there have been 14 discovered lynchings in the past five years —six in 1946, one in 1947, two in 1948, three in 1949, and two in 1950.

$2,000 for Earle Killing

Lynchings were prevented in at least seven instances during the year, six in the South and one in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, four were colored persons and three were white.

During the week of March 16, Greenville County, S.C., paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law.

1-6-51

On April 4 in Calhoun County, Miss., James Moore, 20, white, was freed in the July, 1949 slaying of Malcolm Wright near Houston, Chickasaw County. Wright was a well-respected tenant farmer in that area.

Negro and White Man Listed As 1950 Victims of Lynch Mobs

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP)—Two men—a Georgia Negro and an Alabama white man—were listed yesterday by Tuskegee Institute as victims of night-riding lynch mobs in 1950.

This was one less than the famed Negro school recorded the previous year when three Negroes were classified as lynch victims, two in Georgia and one in Mississippi.

27

Tuskegee records show there were two United States lynchings in 1948, one in 1947, six in 1946, and one in 1945.

1-1-51

Man Killed In front of Home

In its annual report on mob violence, Tuskegee listed seven incidents in which it said intended lynch victims were saved. Four of the persons involved were Negroes; three were white men. Tuskegee said three of the incidents occurred in Alabama and one each in Michigan, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Charlie Hurst, 39-year-old rolling-store operator shot to death in front of his home near Pell City, Ala., last February 22, was the white man listed as a lynch-mob victim in 1950.

He was killed in an exchange of gunfire with an unmasked band that tried to drag him into an automobile. His 19-year-old son was wounded but recovered.

Five men were indicted for Hurst's murder. One was convicted of manslaughter but has appealed the case, another was acquitted; and the trials of the other three have been postponed.

Three white men were convicted and sentenced to prison for the killing of Clinton Walker, Negro laborer, in Georgia whose death was listed as a lynching.

Walker's bullet-riddled body was found floating in a creek in Meriwether County August 18.

Sheriff Sutton Gill said investigators believed he was slain because he knew too much about illegal whisky operations.

Two persons lynched in 1950 in U. S., says Tuskegee survey

Two persons were lynched in 1950, according to Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute.

The Institute's department of records and research makes a study of lynchings each year. The study was released Saturday.

There were three lynchings over the nation in 1949, two in 1948, one in 1947 and six in 1946.

One of the 1950 victims was Charlie Hurst, 39, white, a rolling store operator, of Pell City, Ala. He was fatally wounded Feb. 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. His 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, also was wounded.

Hurst previously had told his son, "It looks like the Kluxers are after me."

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* * *

THE OTHER VICTIM was Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay, Meriwether County, Ga. His body was found Aug. 18 in a creek near the Flint River. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked, the Institute's report stated, citing the guilty pleas entered by the three.

The report devoted some space to legal punishment meted for lynchings:

It stated that during the week of Mar. 16, Greenville County, S. C., paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law.

On April 4, in Calhoun County, Miss., Circuit Court, James Moore, 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro, near Houston, Miss., on July 2, 1949. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a tenant farmer in that area.

* * *

ON JUNE 28, in St. Clair County Circuit Court, Ala., Charlie Carlisle Jr., 24, white, was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in the slaying of Charlie Hurst, of Pell City. He was later released on $3,000 appeal bond. Three other men indicted for the same crime were released under $5,000 bond. Another person was tried and cleared.

27 1950

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On Nov. 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William Turner, 26, a white tenant farmer of Meriwether County, Ga., in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

Lynchings were prevented in at least seven instances, six in the South and one in the North. Of those saved, three were white and four were Negroes.

Two persons lynched in 1950 in U. S., says Tuskegee survey

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News

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One of the 1950 victims was Charlie Hurst, 39, white, a rolling store operator, of Pell City, Ala. He was fatally wounded Feb. 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. His 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, also was wounded.

Hurst previously had told his son, "It looks like the Kluxers are after me."

Jour. 12-31-50

THE OTHER VICTIM was Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay, Meriwether County, Ga. His body was found Aug. 18 in a creek near the Flint River. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked, the Institute's report stated, citing the guilty pleas entered by the three.

Birmingham Ala.

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Lynchings were prevented in at least seven instances, six in the South and one in the North. Of those saved, three were white and four were Negroes.

Columbus Paper Denies Georgia Negro Lynched

~~Journal-Constitution~~

COLUMBUS, Ga., Dec. 30—(AP). The Columbus Sunday Ledger-Enquirer Saturday disagreed with Tuskegee Institute's description of Clinton Walker in Meriwether County as a lynching.

Jour. 12-31-50

In an editorial, the paper quoted Solicitor General Wright Lipford of the Coweta Circuit as saying "we considered this murder and the men involved were punished accordingly. It was not a lynching."

Atlanta Ga.

Georgia Negro, Alabama White On Lynch List

Journal-Constitution

Jour. 12-31-50

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30—(AP). Two men—a Georgia Negro and an Alabama white man—were listed Saturday by Tuskegee Institute as victims of night-riding lynch mobs in 1950.

This was one less than the famed Negro school recorded the previous year, when three Negroes were classified as lynch victims, two in Georgia and one in Mississippi.

atlanta, ga.

Tuskegee listed seven incidents in which it said intended lynch victims were saved. Four of the persons involved were Negroes; three were white men.

Charlie Hurst, 39-year-old rolling-store operator, shot to death in front of his home near Pell City, Ala., last Feb. 22, was the white man listed as a lynch mob victim in 1950.

Five men were indicted for Hurst's murder. One was convicted of manslaughter but has appealed the case, another was acquitted, and the trials of the other three have been postponed.

Three white men were convicted and sentenced to prison for the killing of Clinton Walker, Negro laborer, in Georgia, whose death was listed as a lynching.

Walker's bullet-riddled body was found floating in a creek in Meriwether County Aug. 18. Sheriff Sutton Gill said investigators believed he was slain because he knew too much about illegal whiskey operations.

Night-Rider Killing Listed As Lynching

Advertiser

Jour. 12-31-50

Slaying Of White Man In Pell City Cited In Tuskegee Report

Montgomery

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Dec. 30—(AP)—The night-rider slaying of a white man during a new terrorist reign in Alabama was listed by Tuskegee Institute Saturday as one of two lynchings in the United States in 1950.

A Georgia Negro was the other victim of mob violence during the year, Tuskegee's annual report said.

The 1950 total was one below the previous year's, when three Negroes were recorded as lynch victims, two in Georgia and one in Mississippi.

Tuskegee records show there were two U. S. lynchings in 1948, one in 1947, six in 1946 and one in 1945.

In addition to the two slain this year, the famed Negro school listed seven incidents, three of them in Alabama, as attempted lynchings in which the intended victims were saved.

Four of the persons involved were Negroes, three white men. Besides those in Alabama, the report said the others took place in Michigan, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Charlie Hurst, 39-year-old rolling store operator shot to death in front of his home near Pell City, Ala., last Feb. 22, was the white man listed as a lynch mob victim in 1950.

Hurst was killed in an exchange of gunfire with an unmasked band that tried to drag him into an automobile. His 19-year son was wounded, but recovered.

Investigating officers never were able to establish a motive, and some of them said they thought it may have been a case of mistaken identity.

Alabama authorities demanded punishment of the slayers, and five men, including the Rev. Alvin Horn, Talladega preacher, and organizer for the Georgia Association of Klans, were indicted on a charge of murder.

Convicted Of Manslaughter

Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24-year-old Pell City textile worker, was convicted of manslaughter, and was given five years, but appealed and was released under $3,000 bond.

Advertiser

Another defendant, Talladega furniture dealer Claude Luker, was acquitted.

Horn's trial and those of the other two were postponed, and they are out under bonds of $5,000 each.

Jour. 12-31-50

When the night-riding band came to his home, Hurst remarked to his son, "it looks like the Kluxers are after me," but Klan officials denied any connection with the shooting.

The killing climaxed an outburst of terrorism in Alabama which prompted the legislature late in 1949 to outlaw the wearing of masks in public. Several persons had been flogged by hooded bands before the anti-masking law was enacted.

Three men were convicted and sentenced to prison for the killing of Clinton Walker, Negro laborer in Georgia, whose death was listed as a lynching.

Walker's bullet-riddled body was found floating in a creek in Meriwether County on Aug. 18, and Sheriff Sutton Gill said investigators believed the Negro was slain because he knew too much about illegal whisky operations.

Tried for murder, two white men, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn, were sentenced to life terms on Sept. 7, and another, Robert Dunn, was given three to five years.

The Tuskegee report also mentioned that a Georgia farmer, John Wallace, was electrocuted on Nov. 3 this year for the killing of William Turner, white tenant farmer, whose death in 1948 was called a lynching.

It said, too, that Greenville County, S. C., paid $2,000 to the estate of Eillie Earle, "lynched" in 1947.

Three Negroes saved from angry crowds in Alabama were among the seven persons Tuskegee Institute listed as intended lynch victims during this year.

The first incident was at Lanett the night of March 25 when Jack Tucker was rescued from an armed mob and rushed to Kilby Prison after two white women had been badly beaten on the head with a flat iron. Tucker was later sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Then on Sept. 28, officers sped William Franklin Webb from Columbiana to Birmingham after the Negro was accused of deliberately running over Shelby County Sheriff Luther Bozeman with a car and killing him while the sheriff was taking part in a liquor raid. Webb was indicted on a charge of murder but hasn't been tried.

At Calera, also in Shelby County, Deputy Sheriff C. H. Fore was credited with talking a posse out of killing a Negro suspected of raping a white housewife, Mrs. Kathleen Holley, and killing her four-year-old son, Dale. Taken to safety in Birmingham, the Negro, Cooper Drake, was indicted both on murder and rape charges and is awaiting trial.

A white man, Clifford Pulver was saved from a "possible lynching" at Corunna, Mich., on June 26, the report said, after the eight-year-old niece of his dead wife had been raped and choked to death. Pulver was taken to jail for safekeeping.

In Mississippi, a Negro laborer, Odell Moore, told of jumping into a river and swimming to safety from a group of white men he said tried to hang him from a bridge. Tuskegee listed this, too, as an attempted lynching.

Also threatened by a mob, the report continued, was Curtis Shedd, white ex-convict suspected of killing Johnnie May Boyter, 14, her sister Jo Ann, eight, and their father, John Boyter, 35. edd was rescued and taken to jail at Walhalla, S. C.

And at Rogersville, Tenn., another white man, Carl Waters, was rushed to Morristown to safety after admitting he killed two women.

1950 wurden zwei Perſonen gelyncht

Rochester, N.Y. Abendpost

Tuskegee, Ala. — Zwei Männer —ein Neger in Georgia und ein Weißer in Alabama — wurden 1950 Opfer der Lynchjuſtiz. Dies teilte das „Tuskegee Inſtitute", eine berühmte Schule für Neger, mit, die eine Statiſtik über Lynchvergehen führt. Im Vo[illegible] Inſtitut, daß zwei [illegible] wütenden Mengen umgebracht worden waren. 1948 waren es zwei, 1947 einer, 1946 ſechs und 1945 ein Opfer, ſoweit es das Inſtitut mitteilte. 1-3-51

Im Jahresbericht über Mob-Gewalttätigkeit berichtete das Inſtitut ferner über ſieben Vorfälle, bei denen Perſonen (vier Neger, drei Weiße) vor einer Menge gerettet wurden, die ſie umbringen wollte. Die beiden für 1950 gemeldeten Lynch-Opfer waren Charlie Hurſt, der im Februar in Pell City, Ala., von einer Bande erſchoſſen wurde, und Clinton Walker, der in Meriwether County, Ga., erſchoſſen aufgefunden wurde. Im letzteren Fall glaubte man, er wurde ermordet, da er über Whisky-Schiebungen „zu viel" wußte.

Tuskegee Chalks Up Two Lynches For Year Of '50

Herald
Sat. 1-13-51
Cleveland, Ohio

There were only two lynchings in the United States during the year of 1950, according to Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynchings, released to the press of the nation this week.

One of this year's lynch victims was Charlie Hurst, white, 39-year-old rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair County, Ala. He was mortally wounded on February 22, in his front yard by a group of masked men, who had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car.

Got "Wrong Man"

Hurst's 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded. Hurst had previously told his son that "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." As there were no charges against the victim, it appeared that the mob got the "wrong man."

The second mob victim was Jack Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay Meriwether County, Ga. His body was found by a group of fishermen in a creek near the Flint River, on August 18. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked, allegedly because he knew "too much about illegal whiskey traffic."

According to the report, at least seven lynchings were prevented—six in the South and one in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, three were white and four were Negroes.

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7 Victims Saved From Mob Attack

Defender
Nat. 1-6-51
27
Chicago, Ill.

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The Negro victim was Jack Walker, also known as Clinton Walker, and Jack Kendall, a 40-year-old laborer of Gay Meriwether, Ga. His body was found in a creek last August near his home town by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about their illegal whiskey traffic. Two of the men were sentenced to life in prison and the third was given a five-year sentence.

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James Moore, 20-year-old white youth, was found not guilty in Houston, Miss., in the slaying of a well respected tenant farmer, Malcolm Wright, in July, 1949. Moore pleaded self-defense.

Four of the men who lynched the 1950 white victim are out on bond awaiting trial. One has been sentenced but is free pending his appeal.

Recorded lynchings for the past five years are: 1950, 2; 1949, 3; 1948, 2; 1947, 1; 1946, 6.

27i 1950 Reports on, Sent Press Tuskegee Institute Report

8185

Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee, Sends Out Information Concerning Lynching For the Year 1950

Globe

1-5-51

According to Records Compiled in Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee; Two Lynchings For 1950; and Twelve For the Past Five Years

27i

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynching for the year 1950.

Number of Lynchings

According to records compiled in the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, I find that 2 persons were lynched during this year. Recorded lynchings for the past 5 years were:

1950	2
1949	3
1948	2
1947	1
1649	6
Total	14

One of the victims was Charlie Hurst, white, 39-year-old rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair County, Alabama. He was mortally wounded on February 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him to [illegible]. His 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded. Hurst had previously told his son that "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." There were no charges against the victim. It seems that the mob got the "wrong man."

The other victim was Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay, Meriwether County, Georgia. His body was found on August 18 in a creek near the Flint river by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about illegal whiskey traffic.

Legal Punishment for Lynching

During the week of March 16, Greenville County, South Carolina paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such payment.

On April 4, in the Calhoun County Mississippi, Circuit Court, James Moore, age 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Mississippi on July 2, 1949. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well respected tenant farmer in that area.

On June 28, in the St. Clair County, Alabama Circuit Court, Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24 years old, white was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in the slaying of Charles Hurst of Pell City, Alabama on February 22, 1950. He was later released on a $3,000 appeal bond. Three other men indicted for the same [illegible] were released on a $5,000 bond. Another person was tried and cleared.

Globe 1-5

On September 7, in the Meriwether County, Georgia Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for the slaying of Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendell, also known as Clinton Walker, Negro, of near Gay, Meriwether County, Georgia on August 18, 1950. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

On November 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner, a 26-year-old white tenant farmer of Meriwether County, Ga., in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

Lynchings Prevented

Lynchings were prevented in at least 7 instances—6 in the South and 1 in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, 3 were white and 4 were Negroes.

Very truly yours,
F. D. PATTERSON,
President.

271 1950

Report on, Sent Press. (Jan.-Dec.) 1949
(Representative Abernethy-Protests Mississippi on report)

8189

Solon Protests Tuskegee's '49 Lynch Report

Advertiser

Mississippi Slaying Erroneously Classified, Says Rep. Abernathy

Wed. 2-15-50

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14—(AP)—Rep. Abernethy (D-Miss), protested to Tuskegee Institute Tuesday that it included in a 1949 report on lynchings the slaying of one Negro in Mississippi which was "definitely not a lynching."

Abernethy wrote President F. D. Patterson of the Institute requesting that the report be reconsidered "to right the wrong which it has done the people of my county and state, as well as the Institute."

The Tuskegee Institute report, Abernethy said, listed as a lynching the death of Malcolm Wright, a Negro in Chickasaw County, Miss.

Montgomery, Ala.

This was one of three lynchings in the United States during the year, the Institute reported.

In his letter, which he made public, Abernethy said "It was reported that four white men, * * * allegedly became enraged at Malcolm Wright, a Negro, for 'hogging the road', dragged him from a wagon and beat him to death."

Murder or Manslaughter

This may have been murder or manslaughter, Abernethy said, but not a lynching.

"All lynchings are murders," Abernethy wrote. "But on the contrary, all murders are not lynchings."

Abernethy also said a section of the Tuskegee report devoted to "punishment of lynchers," made no reference whatever to the action taken by Chickasaw County law enforcement officers in the case.

The four men have been charged with murder and indicted, Abernethy said, and when their case was called last October they sought and obtained a change of venue to another county.

Venue Changes

This venue change was obtained, Abernethy said, on a contention by the men that "sentiment was running so strongly against them among the people of the county, including the white people, if you please, that they could not secure a fair and impartial trial within the county."

The Institute report, Abernethy said, left the impression "though probably not intentional" that the incident has gone without notice or action in the county.

The Mississippian suggested that the institute withdraw its report or issue an amended report deleting "the Chickasaw incident."

Tuskegee Refuses To Change Lynch Report

Advertiser

Thurs. 2-16-50

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Feb. 15 —(AP)— Tuskegee Institute President F. D. Patterson said today the 1949 Tuskegee lynching report can't be altered to please a Mississippi congressman.

Rep. Abernethy (D-Miss) wrote him yesterday asking that the slaying of Malcolm Wright in Chickasaw County, Miss., be deleted from the list of lynchings.

The congressman said it might have been murder or manslaughter, but was "definitely not a lynching."

Montgomery, Ala.

Dr. Patterson said Tuskegee classes as a lynching any slaying in which "three or more persons take the law into their own hands and deprive another of his rights without due process."

Tuskegee Backs Lynch Report

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — A plea by a Mississippi legislator to have Tuskegee institute alter its lynching report for 1949 was denied last week by the school.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president, said the school refused to reduce the number of lynchings by one at the request of Rep. Abernathy of Mississippi.

Abernathy wanted the murder of Malcolm Wright in Chickasaw county, Miss., to be scratched off the list of lynchings. Dr. Patterson pointed out that Tuskegee terms a lynching as the slaying of a person in which "three or more persons take the law into their hands and deprive another of his rights without due process."

2-23-50

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Dixie Congressman Says 'Lynching Was Not A Lynching'

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The slaying of Malcolm Wright by four white men in Mississippi in 1949, was definitely not a lynching, cried Rep. Abernethy (D., Miss.) Tuesday in his protest to Tuskegee Institute.

Wright, dragged from a wagon and beaten to death for allegedly "hogging the road," was one of three lynch victims in the United States during the past year, according to the report of Tuskegee.

The Mississippi Congressman has requested President F. D. Patterson of the Institute that the report be reconsidered "to right the wrong which it has done the people of my county and state, as well as the Institute."

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In his letter to Patterson, which he made public, Abernethy said the death of Wright may have been murder or manslaughter, but not a lynching.

'All lynchings are murders," Abernethy wrote, "but on the contrary, all murders are not lynchings."

The four accused slayers of Wright have been charged with murder and indicted.

File February, 1950

SOLON PROTESTS LYNCHING LISTING

Says Chickasaw Incident Was 'Murder Case'

(The Associated Press)

Washington, Feb. 15—Rep. Abernethy (D-Miss.) protested to Tuskegee institute Tuesday that it included in a 1949 report on lynchings the slaying of one Negro in Mississippi which was "definitely not lynching."

Abernethy wrote president F. D. Patterson of the institute requesting that the report be reconsidered "to right the wrong which it has done the people of my country and state, as well as the institute."

The Tuskegee institute report, Abernethy said, listed as a lynching the death of Malcolm Wright, a Negro in Chickasaw country, Miss.

This was one of three lynchings in the United States during the year, the institute reported.

In his letter, which he made public, Abernethy said "it was reported that four white men . . . allegedly became enraged at Malcolm Wright, a Negro, for 'hogging the road,' dragged him from a wagon and beat him to death."

This may have been murder or manslaughter, Abernethy said, but not a lynching.

"All lynchings are murders," Abernethy wrote. "But on the contrary, all murders are not lynchings."

Abernethy also said a section of the Tuskegee report devoted to "punishment of lynchers," made no reference whatever to the action taken by Chickasaw county law enforcement officers in the case.

The four men have been charged with murder and indicted, Abernethy said, and when their case was called last October they sought and obtained a change of venue to another county.

This venue change was obtained, Abernethy said, on a contention by the men that "sentiment was running so strongly against them among the people of the county, including the white people, if you please, that they could not secure a fair and impartial trial within the county."

The institute report, Abernethy said, left the impression "though probably not intentional" that the incident has gone without notice or action in the county.

The Mississippian suggested that the institute withdraw its report or issue an amended report deleting "the Chickasaw incident."

SOLON PROTESTS LYNCHING LISTING

Times-Picayune

Says Chickasaw Incident Was 'Murder Case'

Miss.

(The Associated Press)

Washington, Feb. 15—Rep. Abernethy (D-Miss.) protested to Tuskegee institute Tuesday that it included in a 1949 report on lynchings the slaying of one Negro in Mississippi which was 'definitely not lynching."

2-16-50

New Orleans, La.

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27a

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8190

Skimmed From The Top

RALPH H. JONES

PHILADELPHIA

The Tuskegee Institute report on the lynchings of 1950 show a total of two. This is two too many. In this highly civilized social order of which we are a part, such brutish and barbaric mob action should never occur.

Afro-American

Lynchings are merely a demonstration that our fabric of government is deteriorating. National, State and municipal governments supposedly guarantee each and every citizen protection of life and possessions. Anything less than that and democracy is on the road to disintegration.

Sat. 1-20-51

One aspect of the 1950 brand of mob murder is that it too is going for integration—one of the victims was white, an indication that even recognizes greater evils of man's inhumanity to man.

From The Journal and Guide
(Saturday, January 13, 1917)

1916 Lynching Record In U. S.; 50 Negroes, 4 Whites

Journal and Guide

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People shows the negligence of officers of the law who fail to carry out their sworn duty in protecting persons charged with crime from mob violence. Under the heading "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," on our side of the border, among the colored citizens the association shows that for the past thirty years there have been an average of ninety-two colored persons lynched or hanged without semblance of a trial to prove their innocence or guilt.

Editor's Note:—It is interesting to compare the 1916 lynching total of four white and 50 colored to that of 1950 with one white and one colored. The 1950 lynching total was released by Tuskegee Institute.

The WORLD TODAY

Courier Sat. 1-13

By George S. Schuyler

Washington: With the organization of the Eighty-second Congress the Fair Deal hokum goes down the drain and professional race-savers will have to work out new tactics. With the future of the nation at stake, Congressmen are not going to be bothered with this annual nuisance. Their actions show it.

* * *

NEW YORK: Walter White at NAACP annual meeting repeats old claptrap about hostility to the white race in Asia being "one of the chief reasons why Americans die in Korea." Is that why South Koreans, Burmese, Malayans, Tibetans and Chinese Nationalists are dying? We deserve better informed leaders and more balanced ones.

* * *

Tuskegee Institute: Two lynchings occurred during 1950—one white, the other colored. That's two too many, of course. During 1950 three white men and four Negroes were rescued from mobs; two men were sentenced to life and a third to three-to-five years for slaying a Negro in Georgia, Aug. 18. A man who helped lynch a white farmer in the same county in 1948, was electrocuted. There's getting to be better law enforcement in Dixie. It's time.

The Mob Spirit's Still There

We can rejoice over the fact that Tuskegee Institute reports only two lynchings in 1950 as against three in 1949.

The curve has dropped sharply since 1884 when we had 160 white and 51 colored persons lynched and 1892 when we had 69 white and 162 colored lynchings.

Afro-American

In the early 1800's more white than colored people were lynched because the South was busy throwing terror into the Northerners who had come to Dixie after the war and insisted upon equal rights for colored people.

Sat. 1-13-51

Since 1882, the first year for which there are statistics, there has never been a year in which there have been no lynchings. Since 1940, until 1950, there were no reported lynchings of white persons, but in the 1940's we had as low as one lynching.

Baltimore, Md.

Out of 4,700 cases of lynchings, between the years 1892 and 1946, 1,900 victims were charged with murder; 202 it was said, had assaulted white persons; 910 were accused of rape, and some 880 were accused of attempted rape; 231 of robbery and theft, and 84 cases said the victims had insulted some white persons.

It is important to note that the number of lynchings is not the whole story. Since 1914 we have been keeping records of the persons prevented from being lynched. For example, in 1914, 52 persons were lynched and 24 persons were saved from the mob.

In 1921, 64 persons were lynched and 108 persons saved from lynchings.

In 1931, 13 persons were lynched and 91 escaped mob deaths.

In 1937, eight persons were lynched and 77 saved from lynchings.

In 1946, six persons were lynched and 28 saved from lynchings.

So we can't go around patting ourselves on the back with the belief that we have solved the problem of lynchings.

We have driven it underground, but we are still only a step ahead of the mob in more than a score of cases in the South every year.

The lynching spirit is still there. The mob spirit is still there. The crime spirit is still there, but law enforcement is much better.

It is nice to feel that the nation has been able to do something about lynchings.

We will feel surer of real progress, however, when we have been able to get rid of the lynching spirit.

8191

Still Too Many Lynchings

Daily World

The Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute reported Saturday two lynchings, one a white man and the other a Negro, during the year 1950. These compare with three lynchings in 1949, two in 1948, one in 1947 and six in 1946.

Of the two, Georgia provided one while Alabama provided the other. Both states have their headaches in providing substantial common school education for their citizens. And both states have their share of race-baiting and Ku Klux Klan violence.

Thurs.

It will perhaps sound apologetic to the young people of our present day for us to note this record as a healthy trend as long as there is a single lynching. With that view we agree, any lynching is to be deplored, whether white or colored, one or fifty, in our land of opportunity and democracy. Yet, it will be worth mentioning to our young people that fifty years ago, 1901, the peak year of lynching in America, there were 130 persons lynched, 25 of them white and the remainder colored. The year before that, 1900, was only slightly better with 115 lynchings, 9 whites and 106 colored.

Atlanta Ga.

There was not a single year in the period from 1900 to 1924 in which there was not a lynching. The years 1924, 1925, 1927, 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, and the years 1941 thru 1947, were years without lynchings in any state of the Union. Steadily, if slowly, lynchings have been dropping in number. This trend is due to a growing resentment of public sentiment against this barbaric crime. Newspapers not only have contributed in large part to this healthy crusade against lynching by refusing to cover lynchings when they occurred in backwoods of the South, but in a positive way, they have written condemnations of these crimes in their columns and on their editorial pages.

Still, the major task is not finished. America nor her citizens can feel neither safe nor proud as long as we must tolerate mob violence, Ku Klux Klan intimidation and lynchings. And right now with Democracy engaged in a terrible cold war with Communism across the world, lynchings do us tremendous harm in the minds of subject peoples abroad. We ought to eradicate lynching here and now and not just drive "it underground," as Walter White, head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has so well stated.

Lynchings In 1950

(From The Washington Post)

The 1950 lynching record, as reported by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, sustains the hope that the crime of mob murder is gradually being wiped out. Tuskegee records two lynchings last year, compared with three in 1949, two in 1948, one in 1947 and six in 1946. One of the victims in 1950 was a white man who was slain in his own front yard in Pell City, Ala., by a gang of unmasked men believed to be the members of the Ku Klux Klan. There were no charges against him. The second was a Negro shot to death in Georgia by three men for whom he worked, apparently because he knew too much about their illegal whisky traffic. As described in the Tuskegee report, both these crimes more closely resemble gang slayings than what are usually regarded as lynchings.

Lynchings were prevented in seven instances — six in the South and one in the North. In Georgia two white men were sentenced to life imprisonment and a third to a shorter term for the slaying of a Negro. Under the terms of a South Carolina law, Greenville County paid $2000 to the estate of Willie Earle, who was lynched in that county in 1947. The South has come a long way in recent years in the fight to wipe off this especially despicable crime.

Two Lynched In U. S. In Year Just Closed

Journal and Guide

THE lynching index in the United States has remained relatively stationary during the past four years, according to records compiled by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, which lists two lynchings for the year 1950.

The Tuskegee records, generally accepted as authorative on the subject, show that three persons died at the hands of mobs in this country in 1949, two in 1948, one in 1947, and six in 1946, or a total of 14 within the five-year period.

The figures represent a notable decline in the number lynched in any previous era of equal length, but they are still high enough to constitute a national disgrace. What is wanted and what must be eagerly sought is a completely lynchless year multiplied one hundred times.

In response to public opinion, increased diligence on the part of southern officers of the law, has been a leading factor in controlling mob violence in recent years. For example, in 1950 police officers were successful in at least seven instances in preventing lynchings.

It is now, quite manifest that an anti-lynching opinion has developed and crystalized in the South to a point where it is proving to be an effective aid to the preservation of the law in cases of persons suspected or accused of criminal offenses.

Norfolk Va.

Evidence of this opinion is seen in the fact that last year, Greenville county in South Carolina, was compelled, under state law, to pay a compensation of not less than $2,000 to the estate of WILLIE EARLE, victim of a notorious lynching in 1947.

The fact that in 1950, in the State of Georgia, two white men received life sentences, while a third was given from three to five years for the mob murder of a Negro, is further evidence that in the Deep South, public attitudes regarding lawless mob action are steadily improving.

Lynchings In 1950

(From The Washington Post)

The 1950 lynching record, as reported by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, sustains the hope that the crime of mob murder is gradually being wiped out. Tuskegee records two lynchings last year, compared with three in 1949, two in 1948, one in 1947 and six in 1946. One of the victims in 1950 was a white man who was slain in his own front yard in Pell City, Ala., by a gang of unmasked men believed to be the members of the Ku Klux Klan. There were no charges against him. The second was a Negro shot to death in Georgia by three men for whom he worked, apparently because he knew too much about their illegal whisky traffic. As described in the Tuskegee report, both these crimes more closely resemble gang slayings than what are usually regarded as lynchings.

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One For The Book

MORRISTOWN, TENN., June 22—(AP)—CIO strikers placed the strife-ridden American Enka plant under siege today, wounding three non-strikers as a handful of police stood by helplessly. A striker also was wounded slightly by a band of workers waiting in town to go to the plant.

Advertiser

27i

Almost the advocates of a federal anti-lynch law persuadest us to be a Christian.

Thurs 6-22-51

This violence seems to qualify all around as a lynching and we trust that next year's Tuskegee lynching report will take due account of it.

DENY WALKER WAS LYNCHED

COLUMBUS, Ga.—The Columbus Sunday Ledger-Enquirer last week denied that Clinton Walker was lynched in Meriwether County, as listed in the Tuskegee Institute report on 1950. The Ledger-Enquirer said Walker was murdered instead.

Walker and Charlie Hurst, an Alabama white man, were listed as the two men lynched during 1950.

Sat 1-13-51

Walker's body was found floating in a creek in Meriwether County last Aug. 18. According to police, he was slain because he knew too much about illegal whisky operations in the county. Three white men were convicted and sentenced to prison for killing Walker.

Tuskegee Institute List Two Lynchings for Year; Seven Crimes Prevented

Journal

Thurs 1-4-51

Tuskegee, Ala.—According to records compiled in the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute, two persons were lynched during the year of 1950.

The record showed a decrease in lynchings for the past five years; three in 1949; two in 1948; 1 in 1947 and 6 in 1946.

Got 'Wrong Man'

One of the 1950 victims was Charlie Hurst, 39-year-old white rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair County, Ala.

He was mortally wounded on February 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car.

His 19-year-old son, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded. Hurst had previously told his son that "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." There were no charges against the victim. It seems that the mob got the "wrong man."

The other victim was Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay Meriwether County, Georgia.

His body was found on August 18 in a creek near the Flint river by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about illegal whiskey traffic.

Punishment

During the week of March 16, Greenville County, paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of$2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such payment.

On April 4, in the Calhoun County, Circuit Court, James Moore, age 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Miss., on July 2, 1949. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well respected farmer in that area.

On June 28, in the St. Clair County, Alabama Circuit Court, Charlie Carlisle, Jr., 24 years old, white, was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in the slaying of Charlie Hurst of Pell City, Alabama on February 22, 1950. He was later released on a $3,000 appeal bond. Three other men indicted for the same crime were released on a $5,000 bond. Another person was tried and cleared.

On September 7, in the Meriwether County, Georgia Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for the slaying of Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known asClinton Walker, Negro, of Gay, Meriwether County, Georgia on August 18, 1950. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

On November 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner, a 26-year-old white tenant farmer of Meriwether County, Georgia in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

Lynchings were prevented in at least 7 instances—6 in the South and 1in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, 3 were white and 4 were Negroes.

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7 Victims Saved From Mob Attack

Defender

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Tuskegee Institute announced that according to their records there were two lynchings in the U. S. during 1950. This was one less than 1949. One victim was white.

Sat. 1-6-51

The Negro victim was Jack Walker, also known as Clinton Walker, and Jack Kendall, a 40-year-old laborer of Gay Meriwether, Ga. His body was found in a creek last August near his home town by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about their illegal whiskey traffic. Two of the men were sentenced to life in prison and the third was given a five-year sentence.

Seven lynchings were averted in 1950. Six were in the South and one in the North. Four of those saved were Negroes.

1-6-51

In March of last year, Greenville County, S. C., paid to the survivors of Willie Earle $2,000. He was lynched in that county in 1947 and his family was paid the minimum sum as compensation under a S. C. law providing for such payment.

James Moore, 20-year-old white youth, was found not guilty in Houston, Miss., in the slaying of a well respected tenant farmer, Malcolm Wright, in July, 1949. Moore pleaded self-defense.

Four of the men who lynched the 1950 white victim are out on bond awaiting trial. One has been sentenced but is free pending his appeal.

Recorded lynchings for the past five years are: 1950, 2; 1949, 3; 1948, 2; 1947, 1; 1946, 6.

Lynchings Held Down To Two For 1950 Record

Journal and Guide

(Special to Journal and Guide)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —Two persons were lynched in the United States during 1950, at least seven lynchings were prevented, and one county paid a compensation of $2,000 in a lynching case, according to records compiled by the department of records and research, Tuskegee Institute.

Feb 51

Norfolk Va.

In addition one alleged white mobster was sentenced to a prison term of five years, two drew life sentences, another drew three years for a mob slaying, and one white man was electrocuted for the mob murder of a white tenant farmer.

The total of two lynchings for 1950 was one less than the three for 1949; equal to the number for 1948, one more than the 1947 total of one, and four less than the 1946 figure of six.

THE TOTAL NUMBER of persons who died at the hand of mobs in the five year period, Tuskegee reports, was 14.

Both of the 1950 lynchings occurred in the South, one in Alabama and the other in Georgia. One of the victims was a white man, Charlie Hurst, 39 - year - old rolling store operator of Pell City, St. Clair county, Ala., and the other was identified as Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall, also known as Clinton Walker, a 40-year-old Negro laborer of near Gay, Meriwether county, Ga.

Hurst was mortally wounded on February 22 in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his home at bedtime and tried to force him into their car.

* * *

HIS 19-YEAR - OLD SON, who came to his father's assistance, was also wounded. Hurst had previously told his son "it looks like the Kluxers are after me." There were no charges against the victim. It seems that the mob got the "wrong man."

Walker's body was found on August 18 in a creek near the Flint River by a group of fishermen. He had been shot to death by three men for whom he worked. Walker is said to have known too much about illegal whiskey traffic.

During the week of March 16, Greenville county, S. C., paid to the estate of Willie Earle, lynched in that county in 1947, the minimum sum of $2,000 as compensation under a South Carolina law providing for such payments.

Journal and Guide

* *

ON APRIL 14, Calhoun County, Miss., Circuit Court, James Moore, 20, white, was found not guilty in the slaying of Malcolm Wright, Negro, near Houston, Chickasaw County, Miss., July 2, 1950. Moore claimed self-defense. Wright was a well-respected tenant farmer in the area.

Feb-6

On September 7, in the Meriwether County, Georgia Supreme Court, Warner Hannah and Jack Dunn drew life sentences and Herbert Dunn was given three to five years in prison for slaying of Jack Walker, on August 18. The three men, all white, had entered pleas of guilty.

On November 3, John Wallace, white, was electrocuted for the slaying of William (alias Wilson) Turner, a 26-year-old white tenant farmer near Meriwether County, Ga., in 1948. Three other men are serving life sentences for their part in the crime.

Lynchings were prevented in at least seven instances—six in the South and one in the North. Of the persons saved from mobs, three were white and four Negro.

8194

Lynchings In 1950

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Post

1-5-51

Lynching Record Better

The 1950 record for mob violence as chronicled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., and released by President F. D. Patterson, shows a decided improvement.

The comparative figures for five years are as follows: 1950 two; 1949 three; 1948 two; 1947 one; 1946 six or a total of 14 for the five year period.

In the strictest sense actually none of the victims of outlawry in 1950 was lynched.

Daily Free Press

The first victim in 1950 was a 39-year-old itinerant merchant at Pell City, Alabama. He was mortally wounded on February 22nd in his front yard by a group of unmasked men. They had come to his house and tried to force him into their car. Whether they intended to kill him or not is a moot question. Evidently they expected to do him bodily violence. Instead of yielding to their demand he resisted and his 19-year-old son came to his rescue. The son was also wounded in the gun play and afterwards it developed that the mob which was thought to be a Ku Klux gang, found that they had attacked the wrong man and that they had no grievance or charge against the dead man.

Kinston, N.C.

2-5-51

The second victim was a 40-year-old negro laborer in Georgia. He was shot to death by three men for whom he had worked in the illicit liquor traffic and reputedly they thought that he might turn against them and testify in court. It would be just as correct, we believe, to classify his death as a plain murder or assassination, rather than a victim of mob violence.

Both of the alleged lynchings although classified under the rules and conditions of the Tuskegee Department are on the border line. In its final analysis it's a question of opinion whether there were any [illegible] the country in 1950.

Shelby sheriff mashed to death by man in car

A powerfully built Birmingham Negro, accused of deliberately running over and killing the sheriff of Shelby County yesterday was in Jefferson County Jail today for safekeeping.

He was transferred from Shelby County Jail at Columbiana to Birmingham last night. Officers said they were chased by one or more cars for at least 35 miles. They said they drove more than 90 miles an hour at times to elude their pursuers.

The Negro, William F. Webb, 27, of 3006 Sixth Avenue, North, was brought to Birmingham after a crowd estimated at between 150 and 200 men, unarmed, gathered at the Columbiana jail last night.

The crowd began to form after word was received that Sheriff Luther T. Bozeman, 50, of Shelby County, had died at Jefferson-Hillman Hospital from injuries suffered when he was run over by a car driven by Webb. The sheriff and other officers had seized five 800-gallon stills on a raid at the time.

* * *

SHELBY DEPUTY SHERIFF Cecil Hayes asked the crowd to disperse while Webb was in the Shelby County Jail.

"The sheriff would not have wanted any trouble," [illegible] Hayes told the crowd. Groups began to move off down [illegible] away from the jail in response to the deputy's appeal.

R. E. (Buster) Hogan, Talladega correspondent for The Birmingham News and a close friend of Sheriff Bozeman, then drove his car alongside the jail. The Negro was put in the car, and the race to Birmingham began.

Hogan drove to Harpersville, Vincent and Pell City, then to Birmingham. Birmingham Police officers met the car at Irondale and formed an escort to County Jail here.

An Irondale filling station operator told other Birmingham police officers that several cars "were right behind that car, going mighty [illegible]"

Officers said Webb would be charged with murder today.

* * *

SHERIFF BOZEMAN, 50, had gone on a still raid about noon yesterday with Jack Benton, Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board agent; John Douglas, investigator for the Federal Alcohol Tax Unit here; Hubert Kirkland, chief deputy sheriff for Shelby County; Hugh Shaw, ABC agent, and Grover Trumble, A. T. U. officer.

9-24-50

They arrested two white men at a still near the Narrows, about a mile off the Florida Short Route. The men, lodged in Shelby County Jail on distilling charges, were identified as John R. Foster and Furman Farmer, both 22 and both of Pinson Route 2.

Benton said Webb drove his automobile up to a still while the officers were present. When they tried to arrest him, Benton said Webb deliberately drove his car through a field of high sagebrush at the sheriff.

The sheriff was knocked to the ground and crushed as he ran for his life. Benton said a federal agent, whom he did not identify, narrowly escaped being struck. Webb was halted when officers shot the tires on his car.

The sheriff's leg was almost torn off by the automobile. Benton and Kirkland picked the sheriff up and put him in the Negros car. They made the highway, driving on flat tires.

There they hailed a passing car. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Mackey, of Indianapolis, Ind., stopped their car, unloaded their luggage at a filling station to make room for the officers and sped to the Jefferson-Hillman Hospital with the injured sheriff. The Mackeys were on their way to Indiana from Florida.

At the hospital, doctors and nurses labored desperately for seven hours to save the sheriff's life. Oxygen, blood and other emergency treatment were administered. The sheriff died at 7:22 p.m.

At County Jail here Webb, six feet two inches tall and weighing 230 pounds, denied that he ran over Sheriff Bozeman intentionally.

"The grass in that field was about four feet high," Webb said. "I didn't even see him. They told me I killed him. He was trembling as officers rushed him through sheriff's office at the courthouse here and on into the jail. An hour later, he was sleeping peacefully in his cell.

* * *

THE SHERIFF and the other officers found five 800-gallon stills two of them in operation, 4,000 gallons of mash and 50 gallons of whisky on their raid yesterday.

The back of Webb's car was filled with empty bottles.

Sheriff Bozeman would have completed his term of office in three months. He was defeated in his campaign for reelection in the May primaries. He had served eight years as Shelby County sheriff.

* * *

FUNERAL SERVICES for Sheriff Bozeman will be held at First Baptist Church at Columbiana at 2 p.m. tomorrow with the Rev. J. E. Franks officiating. Walton will direct burial in Columbiana Cemetery.

Sheriff Bozeman is survived by his widow, Mrs. Syble Bozeman; two daughters, Mrs. Hugh Sims and Mrs. Robert Turner; one brother, Horace Bozeman, Montevallo; three sisters, Mrs. Vesta George and Miss Audrey Bozeman, Leeds, and Mrs. W. M. Hunt, Sylacauga.

Pallbearers will be Tom Lee, Hubert Kirkland, Hugh Shaw, W. E. Garrett, Russell Lee and R. E. (Buster) Hogan.

Honorary pallbearers will be federal, state and county law enforcement officers with whom Sheriff Bozeman had worked.

Sheriff slain—Luther T. Bozeman.

Accused killer—William F. Webb.

Death Of A Sheriff

The tragic death of Sheriff Bozeman of Shelby County in line of duty against moonshining should [illegible] public sentiment and official action respecting these illicit activities.

Ed. 9-30-50

The sheriff was run down by a car driven by a man fleeing from a still. Public feeling ran high after the incident. A crowd gathered at the Columbiana jail where the driver of the car, a Negro, was held. By court [illegible] the prisoner was brought to Birmingham for safekeeping. Officials of the law are to be commended for showing such determination to uphold orderly processes.

Not only should justice now promptly take its course in this case. Renewed resolution and action should be directed against these defiant lawless activities which have been responsible for so much crime, so much other human tragedy, besides the deplorable death of Sheriff Bozeman.

Jury To Study Charges In Sheriff's Death

COLUMBIANA, ALA., Sept. 30 —(AP)—A Shelby County grand jury meeting Oct. 23 will study murder charges filed against a husky Negro charged with deliberately running over and killing Sheriff Luther Bozeman.

William Franklin Webb, 34, was held for safekeeping in the Jefferson County jail at Birmingham. He is a Birmingham resident.

Bozeman was fatally injured while taking part in raids against a group of moonshine stills in western Shelby County. Two white men were arrested on illicit distilling charges.

Other officers said Webb drove up with a load of empty jugs while they were at a still. The officers said Webb deliberately drove his car into Bozeman when they attempted to arrest him.

Webb denied he ran over the 50-year-old sheriff intentionally. He told questioners he did not see the officer because of high grass.

Bozeman had only three more months to serve before completing his regular term.

Armed Posse Seeks Negro In Beating

Advertiser

Wed 3-29-50

27j Montgomery Ala.

LANETT, ALA., March 28.—(AP)—An armed posse pushed through a swampland Tuesday night searching for a Negro who beat and critically injured two white women in their home.

Policeman H. P. Craft said Mrs. Ella Barrow, 65, and her daughter, Miss Sara Barrow, about 35, were apparently beaten by a flat iron or some other blunt instrument late Tuesday.

He said he believed it was a robbery attempt.

Mrs. Barrow is unconscious in Valley Hospital.

Her daughter is being given blood transfusions.

After the attack, the younger woman stumbled to a neighbor's home, 100 yards away, and called help.

She described the Negro as being tall and she said he wore blue overalls.

The women lived a mile from Lanett in Chambers County.

Sheriff E. V. Hilyer, of Troup County, Ga., Sheriff J. M. Abney, of Chambers County, Ala., their deputies, state highway patrolmen and Lanett police joined in the manhunt. They were aided by armed citizens.

Bloodhounds were brought from Kilby Prison.

Negro, 23, Awaits Grand Jury Action In Alabama Prison

Daily Worker

Sat 8-19-50

27j

LANETT, Ala. — (INS) — A 26-year-old Negro was held in Kilby prison tonight to await action by a Chambers County grand jury which will hear evidence September 4 that he beat two Lanett women with an electric iron.

Jack Tucker was spirited to Kilby for safe-keeping after his capture by state patrolmen last March. He had been hunted by some 800 angry white men armed with clubs and guns.

The victims were Mrs. Ella Barrow, 68, and her 35-year-old daughter, Sara.

Tucker, charged with assault with intent to murder, denied the beatings.

Cafe Operator Held In Slaying

Advertiser

27j

Thurs 5-11-50

Montgomery Ala.

DECATUR, ALA. May 10—A Lawrence County cafe operator Wednesday was held here for safekeeping while officers investigate the slaying of a young farmer.

Rumors of possible mob action preceded transfer of Ed MacOwen, 36, from the old and condemned jail at Moulton, the office of Sheriff George Byars there reported.

County Solicitor James Miller said Owen was moved here Tuesday "as a precautionary measure to insure law and order."

Grady Bert Terry, 20-year-old Moulton Crossing farmer, was shot to death at Owen's cafe-filling station about a mile east of Courtland Sunday night.

Courtland Police Chief W. L. Terry said the farmer got into a quarrel with an unidentified Decatur man during a dancing party in the cafe.

Lanett Negro Goes On Trial Next Month

Advertiser

27j Ala.

Fri 8-18-50

Montgomery

LANETT, ALA., Aug. 17—(AP)—The state will try next month to convict an accused Negro slugger who eluded an armed mob for 10 hours after two white women were beaten with an electric iron last March.

Twenty-six-year-old Jack Tucker was finally captured by State Highway patrolmen and rushed to Kilby Prison to keep him away from an estimated 800 white men who hunted the Negro with clubs and guns.

He was later charged with assault with intent to murder, and Circuit Solicitor Dan Boyd said Thursday the case will be submitted to a grand jury scheduled to convene Sept. 4.

If the Negro is indicted, Boyd said, he probably will be tried the following week.

Tucker was taken into custody March 30, climaxing a 10-hour manhunt by state, county and local police.

The beating victims, Mrs. Ella Barrow, 68, and her daughter, Sara, 35, were clubbed on the head with an iron. Both suffered fractured skulls.

Ala.

Tucker insisted he had nothing to do with the beatings. He told police "I ain't been in that white lady's house."

The search for Tucker had threatened to develop into violence before the highway patrolmen got him away.

Deputy Sheriff C. H. Milford said "we had to talk and beg hard" to take him without trouble.

Takes Posse of 400 To Capture 2 Slayers

Courier Dist. 8-19-50

27j Ark

FORREST CITY, Ark.—(ANP)—"All the time I knew I could not escape, but I just wanted to be free a little while. I knew I couldn't get away."

Pittsburgh

These were the words of Aubrey Smith, 28, early Sunday morning as he lay in a hospital bed taking blood plasma following his capture after a thirty nine-hour manhunt by a posse of more than 400 whites.

His capture ended the search for him and Johnny Davis, alias Peter Dawson, charged with first-degree murder allegedly for killing Chief Deputy Sheriff Ray Campbell and seriously wounding Deputy Otis Tatum.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

Davis was captured without a fight after flight without a bite of food and without a word of conversation with anyone. Smith gave himself up after unsuccesfully trying to kill himself as the posse closed in on him.

After being captured and hospitalized, Smith, speaking to a newspaper reporter, a state police officer, and a physician, took all blame for the shooting of Campbell and Tatum. He said Davis did not fire a shot on the fateful night.

The fatal incident occurred Thursday night when the white police officers were taking the two Negroes to jail, allegedly to stand trial for cattle stealing.

IN HOSPITAL

In an episode which no one seems able to describe, somehow, the prisoners got possession of the two officers' guns, shot them, and escaped. All Tatum can remember is that he heard Campbell say, "Oh, no you don't." Tatum added Nat.

"Then I woke up and found Ray dead and other people all around me." 8-19-50

He is in the Baptist Hospital in Memphis.

Smith, confined to University Hospital in Little Rock, did not describe the shooting of the policemen. Physicians say he is in fair condition. One bullet passed through his body, and the other only nicked him.

8200

Tattnall Sheriff Shot By Fugitives

Constitution

Mon. 2-13-50

Suspect Held, Another Trailed

Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

REIDSVILLE — Thirty-five-year-old Tattnall County Sheriff Dan Waller, the father of two children, last night was described as in critical condition in a local hospital after being shot twice while attempting to arrest two Negroes.

The State Highway Patrol said a Negro listed as Jessie Greer, 30, had been captured in a wooded area after a search of several hours.

Police added that they were looking for the brother of the arrested man who also fled after the shooting. They identified him as Joe Greer, 26.

Waller, Sheriff of Tattnall County for the past two years, was shot in the face and shoulder by one or both of the suspects when he attempted to arrest them in connection with another shooting, the Highway Patrol reported.

W. S. Smith, close friend of Waller, said as the Sheriff approached the home of the suspects the men opened fire on him with a shotgun and then disappeared into a nearby thicket.

Smith said the Sheriff was alone when he attempted to make the arrests, and added that he was fired upon as he approached the steps of the suspects' home.

The Negro brothers were wanted in connection with the shooting of two other Negroes last week during an argument.

27j

Ga

Posse Closing Trap on Gun Girl, 2 Pals

Daily Tribune

Sat. 6-3-50

Rome, Ga., June 2 [Special]—A posse of 100 Georgia and Tennessee state policemen, local officers, and volunteers today was believed closing in on three desperadoes, one of them a scar-faced, red haired woman, who yesterday fought a gun battle with a Tennessee patrolman and took his patrol car and submachine gun.

Chicago, Ill.

After a wild chase over highways of both states, the trio abandoned their car and plunged into the densely wooded hills near Fair Mount, Ga., 20 miles northeast of Rome.

The posse today was beating its way cautiously thru the Appalachian foothills where the desperadoes are believed trapped, and where bloodhounds have been unable to trail them. The dogs' keen scent has been baffled by the heavy, sweet smell of the blossoms of millions of honeysuckle vines that shroud the forest and make it nearly impenetrable.

27j

Ga

Trio Appears Drunk

The chase began about 2 p. m. yesterday, when Lt. P. D. Garland of the Tennessee highway patrol attempted to halt the trio's car near Chattanooga because they appeared to be drunk.

After ignoring Garland's orders several times, the fugitive driver stopped, but drove off again with Garland hanging onto the door of his car, after Garland had ordered him to get out. Garland dropped off, returned to his patrol car, and again gave chase, meanwhile radioing for help.

Near Ooltewah he found the fugitive car wrecked on an embankment where it apparently had gone out of control. Garland stepped out of the patrol car, to be met by a shower of pistol bullets from the wrecked auto.

Grab Patrol Car

Ducking behind the patrol car, the lieutenant emptied his .38 caliber revolver at the trio, then retreated about 50 yards to reload as two shotgun blasts peppered the police cruiser. While he was reloading the two men and the red haired gun girl leaped into the patrol car and sped off.

Ownership of the abandoned car later was traced to William J. Parker, of Huntsville, Ala., said by Alabama state police to be wanted on five burglary charges. This was the only definite clew to the identity of any of the trio.

Ten miles north of Chattanooga the fugitives stopped at the home of Mrs. Jesse Roberson and one of the men, wearing a state police cap that had been in Garland's car, posed as a state patrolman and borrowed Mrs. Roberson's car, in which the trio continued their flight after abandoning the police car.

27j Ga

"Ambushed by Bandits"

Mrs. Roberson told authorities the pseudo-trooper told her he had been "ambushed by bandits," and she said he apparently had been shot in the arm.

Georgia Patrolmen Joe Henderson and H. R. Austin next spotted the fugitives about 7 p. m. in Calhoun, Ga., but were unable to approach closely because the desperadoes aimed a submachine gun at them thru the rear window of their car, which they had broken to make a gun port. The submachine gun and 500 rounds of ammunition were in Garland's car when they seized it.

Posse Seeks Armed Trio In Georgia

Times-Dispatch

Sat. 6-3-50

CALHOUN, GA., June 2—(AP)—A scar-faced, red-haired woman and two men, wielding a machine-gun, baffled a posse today in a search through wild hill country.

Richmond, Va.

Officers, weary after three gun scraps with the trio, said they thought the fugitives were trapped in an 18-square-mile area.

The trio, described by officers as "very dangerous," was armed with a shotgun and pistols besides the machinegun. One of the three was believed wounded.

The chase started when a Tennessee policeman halted the car of the trio at Soltewah in Southeast Tennessee for a routine check. A gun battle started and the three seized the police car and headed for Georgia. The patrol car was equipped with a machinegun and 500 bullets.

27j

First at Ringgold, Ga., and then at Calhoun, the fugitives ran into police roadblocks. Both times they escaped. Then the car was found abandoned near Calhoun late yesterday.

Posse Seizes Negro As Attack Suspect

Advertiser

HOMERVILLE, GA., Sept. 9—(U.P.)—An aroused posse of 300 men seized a 35-year-old Negro suspected of raping a young white mother Saturday and the prisoner was later rushed to the stout Waycross jail for safekeeping.

Mon. 9-11-50

The alleged victim, a 19-year-old mother of two, reported a Negro grabbed her as she was sweeping her porch early Saturday, forced her inside her house and raped her while he held a knife at her throat.

27j Ga

Two hours later the posse found a Negro who gave his last name as Williams walking along the highway two miles north of town. The Negro denied he had attacked the woman but she identified him as the rapist.

Montgomery, Ala.

Bloodhounds from the Folkston Prison Camp had been called into the manhunt on the edge of the Okefenokee Swamp. Three cars of highway patrolmen from Waycross also participated.

The troopers and Sheriff W. C. Wooten later escorted Williams to Waycross.

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2 WOMEN SLAIN; POSSE HUNTING; SPURNED SUITOR

Jessup, Ga., Aug. 28 (AP)—A spurned suitor shot and killed two women here today, Sherif George O'Quinn reported. A posse of 10 local police, six state troopers, and more than a hundred civilians searched for the killer.

8-29-50

The sherif said Lee Geiger, 35, a pulpwood worker, blasted away with a .22 automatic rifle about 1:30 a. m. Killed were Retha Geneva Lofton, 35, who the sherif said apparently had turned down Geiger's advances, and Mrs. Hattie Stack Lofton, 53, her mother.

Bobby Lofton, 3, son of Eugene Lofton, Retha's brother, was nicked in the ear by a stray bullet. Three other small children were sleeping in the Lofton home.

27j Ga

The sherif said Geiger first fired thru a window and missed. He then ran into the house while the women fled toward their car. Geiger chased them and fired three bullets into Retha, and four into her mother, after they were in the car.

Rape Suspect Spirited Off To Safety

World

Ga

27j

HOMERVILLE, Ga.—Angry feeling quieted down here Monday after a 27-year old rape suspect was transferred for safekeeping to nearby Waycross.

Wed. 9-13-50

The rape-suspect, identified as Jimmy Cornelius Williams of Alma, Georgia was seized Sunday afternoon by an aroused posse. Williams was caught as he walked quietly away from the town.

Atlanta, Ga.

Sheriff W. C. Wooten revealed that a 19-year old white mother pointed Williams out as the man who grabbed her while she was sweeping the porch and forced her into the house where he raped her while holding a knife at her throat.

According to Wooten, the suspect is being held without charges for his own safety. The sheriff said that rape charges have been prepared for signing before the October court term.

Guards with bloodhounds and three cars of highway patrolmen made up the posse which hunted the alleged rapist Sunday afternoon.

27j 1950 Georgia 8201 X

It Could Have Been Different

It is worth noting that two white men were given life sentences last week in connection with the slaying of a Negro, Clinton Walker, on the night of August 18, while a third was given a three to five year sentence.

Under any interpretation by those who collect and compile statistics on mob violence and lynching, this would be classed as a lynching. Even the Bureau of Records and Research at Tuskegee, we believe, would have to so class this as a lynching.

Daily World

According to the facts, Walker's body was found in a Meriwether County creek near Gay, Ga. August 18, having been shot three times. At first, said Sheriff Sutton Gill, the Dunn brothers denied that they had any part in the slaying. But testimony by Warner Hannah appears to have drawn in the Dunns, nonetheless.

Sun. 9-10-50

We repeat, that this ought by every right, be classed as a lynching. But our point is not to belabor that fact. What we applaud here is that a jury, we presume composed of white men, was enlightened enough to insist upon giving life sentences to these men. We have known hundreds of cases where they refused even to convict white men, although they admit their part in the slaying.

Atlanta, Ga.

It is a sign that local white citizens are growing more enlightened on mob violence and lynching. There remains much yet to be done before we can reach a satisfactory solution of mob rule. For no matter how serious may be the crime a white person may commit, unless local white citizens who later must make up the jury, are willing to convict and condemn him, there is no way by which such a person can be held accountable.

White Trio Held In Negro's Death

Courier

NEWNAN, Ga. — Three white men were placed under arrest here last week in the slaying of Jack Walker, alias Jack Kendall. The victim's body was found in a creek near Gay Aug. 18.

9-9-50

The arrested men were listed by Sheriff Lamar Potts as Warner Hannah of Brooks and Jack and Herbert Dunn of Haraalson.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

27j 1950

Illinois

8202

POSSE SEARCHES THRU WOODS FOR FLEEING CONVICT

Tribune

Chicago, Ill.

Chester, Ill., Feb. 6 [Special]—An intense manhunt was concentrated near here tonight for an escaped convict who fled last night from the scene of a shooting in which his companion was shot and captured when they tried to take a car away from a woman and her three children in dark garage.

27

The convicts, armed with knives, were unaware the woman had picked up three guards—armed war veterans out hunting the felons. The man leaped from the car and shot one of the convicts, Oliver W. Martin, 27, Chicago Negro serving a 199 year term for the murder of a Berwyn, Ill., insurance collector.

202

Martin, shot thru both arms and suffering a head blow from a plank that knocked him unconscious, is in the hospital at the Illinois penitentiary at Menard, from which he and Delbert Sizemore, 32, sawed their way to freedom Saturday.

Tues. 2-7-50

Hunted in Woods

Sizemore, of Muncie, Ind., who was serving a term of one year to life for robbery, fled from the garage during the melee and is being hunted in a wooded section south of here by about 30 prison guards, state police and sherif's deputies.

It was no accident that the three men who captured Martin were out hunting the fugitives and accepted the opportunity to guard the woman motorist, Mrs. Pearl Kirk.

Tribune

The three are relatives of Theodore Buck, 66, who was held captive in his home here yesterday for nearly 12 hours by the two fleeing convicts. They kept him tied to his bed all that time while they threatened him with knives. Then they robbed him of $9 and complete outfits of clothing for thmeselves. Their elderly victim today is in Chester hospital suffering from collapse.

The civilian guards are Homer Buck, son of Theodore, and his brothers-in-law, Ed Poetnitzke and William Welge. Poetnitzke, partner of Homer Buck in a trucking business, figured in an ironic incident in the case yesterday.

Poetnitzke went to Theodore Buck's home yesterday afternoon to await the expected arrival of Homer with a truck so they could get a load of coal. During an hour he waited fruitlessly for Homer, the elder Buck was a gagged and silent prisoner of the convicts inside the house.

Note on the Door

Buck could see Poetnitzke lolling on the front porch, but Poetnitzke didn't see him in the darkened interior. Poetnitzke didn't try the door because the convicts had posted on the outside a penciled note reading: "Will be back this evening." It was signed "Ted," the elder Buck's nickname.

Homer Buck and his two brothers-in-law were posted along a road on the Gleason hill when Mrs. Kirk drove by about 10 o'clock last night and asked them if they would accompany her home. She was afraid for herself and her two sons and small daughter, who were in the car with her, because she had to put her car in a garage at the end of a long drive some distance from her house.

The three men went along and were sitting in the back seat of the Kirk car with the little girl when the two convicts leaped out from behind a partition in the garage. Homer Buck opened fire with his .22 rifle. Welge, however, was so excited he tossed away his 12 gauge shotgun and picked up a plank with which he hit Martin on the head. He hit the Negro so hard state police believed he was dead and broadcast such a report. Twenty minutes later the Negro got up and started to walk away.

27j 1950

Italy

8203

POSSE CATCHES TYROL CAVEMAN IN RAPE MURDER

Daily Tribune

Seized After Struggle in Brenner Pass

Sat. 8-12-50

Chicago, Ill.

TRENTO, Italy, Aug. 11 [Reuers]—The caveman of the Tyrols, ho is believed to have lured a ritish tourist, Helen Munro, 43, nto one of his elaborate caverns, aped, gagged and stabbed her to eath last month, was captured oday.

27j

He is Guido Zingerle, 48, upon whose head two governments put a price of $840 after Miss Munro's nude, beaten body was found in a cave near Innsbruck on July 3. The hairy, husky cave dweller was seized by Italian police in the Brenner pass after putting up a fierce struggle in a cottage in which he had been trapped.

Zingerle has a mania for building finished apartments in the mountain caverns, some of which he plastered and partitioned off into rooms. A bundle of old clothes found in a ditch near the cave where Miss Munro's body was found was identified as Zingerle's and led to a search for him thru the mountains. He had served two years in prison in 1947 for keeping a girl in a cave nearby.

Girl Tells of Attack

Zingerle speaks good English and police believe he enticed Miss Munro, a sculptress, into his cave when she was caught in a storm.

Search parties had been sent into the woods around Trento after a 19 year old girl had stumbled exhausted into the mountain village of Cabbiolo, saying she had been attacked by a bearded, "gorilla-like" man.

The girl, Anna Pedrolli, said the man had jumped out on her in a lonely mountain path and thrust at her with a long knife. The blade grazed her shoulder and stuck in the trunk of a tree. The stranger suddenly loosened his grasp and ran off.

Caveman Disappears

Miss Munro's death coincided with Zingler's disappearance. The Austrian government put a price of $350 on his head. The Italian government another $490.

Four carabinieri brought him in chains down steep mountain tracks to the small Italian town of Bressenone tonight to be questioned. His captors said that as they sprang on him, his hand flashed to a revolver at his belt. But they grappled before he could draw, and after a struggle he was overpowered.

Barbara Falzer, 19, yesterday identified photografs of Zingerle as the man who three years ago captured her at the point of a knife and kept her all night in a cave, leaving her half dead, bound and gagged beneath a pile of rocks.

27j 1950 Louisiana 8204

CRC Fears 2nd Lynch Attack on La. Prisoner

NEW YORK—Edward Honeycutt, young attack frame-up victim, who was once taken from jail by a lynch-mob and managed to escape from them is now in grave danger of a second lynch attempt in the Dixiecrat strong-hold of Opelousas, La., the Civil Rights Congress has been informed.

William L. Patterson, CRC executive secretary, has issued an urgent appeal for telegrams and letters demanding adequate protection for Honeycutt. Reversal of the death sentence was won for Honeycutt recently and he is now awaiting a new trial. He is being defended by three colored attorneys retained by the NAACP.

27j 1950 Louisiana

8205 ?

Body With Wire Around Waist Found in River

Daily News

Mon. 6-19-50

NEW ORLEANS — (UP) — An unidentified man with his hands tied tightly around his waist by wire was found floating in the Mississippi River today.

Police said they believed he had been murdered and his body tossed into the river. His only identifying mark was a belt with the initials "J. A. R."

Police said no one bearing those initials had been reported missing.

George Hymel, 60, a fisherman, spotted the body and notified harbor police. They said the body had been in the water about a week. The coroner was investigating.

8206

Sat. 1-21-50

Baltimore, Md.

Afro American

27j Miss

3 TOTS' MURDER SHOCKS STATE:

Miss. Governor, Senate Ask Death Penalty for Killers

By CARDELL W. McVICKERS
(Staff Correspondent)

KOSCIUSKO, Miss.—Death in the electric chair will be demanded for the three white men who took part in the "revenge massacre," early Monday morning, Jan. 9, of three colored children on a plantation near this town of 4,291 persons.

Ex-convict Leon Turner, 38, and Wendell Whitt, 24, were taken in a dramatic capture, Wednesday morning.

Almost immediately, District Attorney Henry L. Rodgers said charges of first-degree murder, carrying a mandatory death penalty, had been filed against the pair and Malcomb Whitt, 32, a brother of Wendell.

Trapped 2 in Shed

Led by C. E. Grammar, convict trusty, known as "Hog Jaw Mullens," a posse of more than 100 men, including many white citizens deeply shocked over the crime trapped Turner and Wendell Whitt in a potato shed two and a half miles from the Howard Turner home at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday.

The Turner home is 10 miles south of Kosciusko.

Early Wednesday morning, the posse which was mainly composed of Mississippi highway patrolmen, sheriffs, deputies and constables, located the men. They had waited all night for daybreak to continue their search.

27j Miss

At 7 a.m., Hog Jaw Mullens, wearing a red shirt and stripped prison trousers, took off with three bloodhounds. He had a pistol strapped to his right leg.

Bloodhounds Scent Prey

Hog Jaw took the dogs through the Turner home, where they picked up the trail. They left the house on a run, baying. They went through the woods and for a while they lost the trail.

Shortly they picked it up again and began baying. Following close behind was Attala County Constable Hugh Bailey of Kosciusko. He was armed with an automatic rifle.

Around 9, they were about two miles and a half from the Turner home and they saw a barn and a small potato shed. The dogs were still on the trail—but not baying.

Told to Shoot to Kill

The trusty and the constable looked the situation over and the trusty began to let the dogs go again. They were not baying. He crept up to the barn and the dogs headed for the shed.

One of the dogs, Black Boy, poked his head into the potato shed and let out a bark—and Hog Jaw knew he had something.

Everyone had been told to shoot to kill—because they knew Turner was an expert shot. Hog Jaw fired six shots into the potato house and Constable Bailey fired six rounds from the rifle.

"Come Out Crawling"

Hog Jaw crawled toward the potato house and told Turner and Whitt to come out crawling—and they did.

Turner was the first to speak.

"What are you shooting at me for—I ain't done nothing but broke out of jail," Turner said.

"Where's that pistol?" the trusty asked.

"What are you talking about?" Turner replied.

"Where's that gun?" Hog Jaw demanded nervously.

"We ain't got no gun," Turner said.

Turner and Whitt crawled out of the potato house, which had been filled with corn shucks and in it officers found a .38-calibre pistol and several blankets.

Suspects Caught Napping

It was evident that Turner and Whitt had been asleep and had not heard the approach of the posse. Turner was bleeding about the face and left side. Whitt was not wounded.

Quickly the State patrolmen placed the men in a patrol car and headed toward Jackson, where the men were taken for safe keeping because of tense feeling over the incident in Kosciusko.

The pistol found in the shed had shells similar to those found at the home of Thomas Harris, tenant farmer, where the revenge massacre took place early Monday morning.

Lusted for Girl, 15

The trio, Leon Turner, Malcomb Whitt and Wendell Whitt, went to the Harris home and demanded that they were "going to have Pearline Thurman," 15-year-old stepdaughter of Harris, "or we are going to kill the whole damn family."

Officers said Turner took Harris into the kitchen of the farm home and shot him in the back as the Whitt brothers stood outside, guarding the front and the back doors.

Evidence indicates that Turner then went into the bedroom where Mary McAthe, 7, was killed before she could get out of bed.

Sonny Man Thurman, 13, was shot to death as he ran to a door.

Nell Harris, 4, was also shot in bed, but she crawled into a praying position before bleeding to death.

Mother, Newborn Escape

As this took place, Pearline Thurman ran out the front door past one of the Whitt brothers and went under the house.

Turner then made her come out and as she walked onto the porch he shot her in the right arm and breast.

The mother, Mrs. Mae Babe Harris, miraculously escaped death by running out the back door. In her arms was a week-old infant the only child not killed or wounded.

She ran to a neighbor's house and the alarm was spread, resulting in the capture of Malcomb Whitt early Monday morning.

Turner and Wendell Whitt escaped in a pickup truck. Search for the two continued until their capture Wednesday.

Vengeance Motive Bared

Officers said the trio had come to the Harris home to get revenge against Thomas Harris because he had turned in a complaint against them for coming into his home on Dec. 22 and attempting to attack his wife.

District Attorney Rodgers said the trio had entered the home of Mrs. Sally Ward earlier and had attempted to criminally attack her.

The Ward woman and Harris reported the incident to police and the three men were arrested and placed in the old jail at Kosciusko.

They escaped on the night of Dec. 30, using a can opener to dig the mortar from the bricks in the old jail.

"Book" Thrown at Trio

The district attorney reported the following charges have been placed against the trio:

First-degree murder on three counts; burglary with firearms, which carries a possible death penalty in Mississippi; possession of whisky;

Attempted criminal attack of Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Harris; and pointing a loaded pistol at Mrs. Ward and Miss Thurman, a statute carrying a 25-year sentence.

Meanwhile, Harris, who was shot in the back, and his stepdaughter, Pearline remain in a critical condition at a hospital in Kosciusko.

Record of 3 Rotten

Turner was given a 10-year sentence in 1940 for shooting a white man in Attala County. Seven years ago he received a suspension of sentence but was returned to the State penitentiary after disturbing the peace.

Turner's mother died when he was young and his father, Howard Turner, has since lived with a colored woman. Leon was raised with several mulatto half-brothers and sisters.

The Whitt brothers had been sought by officers for several months on a robbery charge. They had jumped bond.

Governor, Senate Moved

Following the capture of the desperadoes, Gov. Fielding Wright and the Mississippi Senate immediately called for swift and full prosecution of the men accused of the murder of the three children.

The Senate, Wednesday, unanimously adopted a resolution which follows:

"Whereas, escaped criminals, without provocation or reason, perpetuated an unwarranted assault on the family of citizens of Attala county, Mississippi; and

"Whereas, these peaceful, law abiding and respected people were guilty of no wrong doing, and were in truth and in fact enjoying a peaceful existence under the protection of the law; now

Would Exact Penalty

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the Mississippi State Senate, in regular meeting assembled, deplore this fortunate occurrence, and extend sympathy to the citizens who were made victims of the unwarranted and dastardly assaults; and

"Be it further resolved, that we commend the State highway patrol the sheriff and members of his organization, and the several hundred citizens of Attala and adjoining counties who worked diligently, intelligently and successfully in the apprehension of the three criminals; and,

"Be it further resolved, that we express our condemnation of every element, directly or indirectly connected with this unfortunate occurence, and

"That we, the members of the State Senate, express the hope that these culprits through and by immediate judicial action will be brought to justice, and be required to pay a penalty in keeping with the laws applied to the wilful, malicious, unlawful and felonious crime of murder."

Case Held No Lynching

Sen. John Culkin said in presenting the resolution:

"This was not a lynching no more than was the New Jersey mass slayings and recent action of a Chicago man in wiping out a family because he thought the head of it had said something about him."

Sen. Stokes Sanders of Kosciusko said:

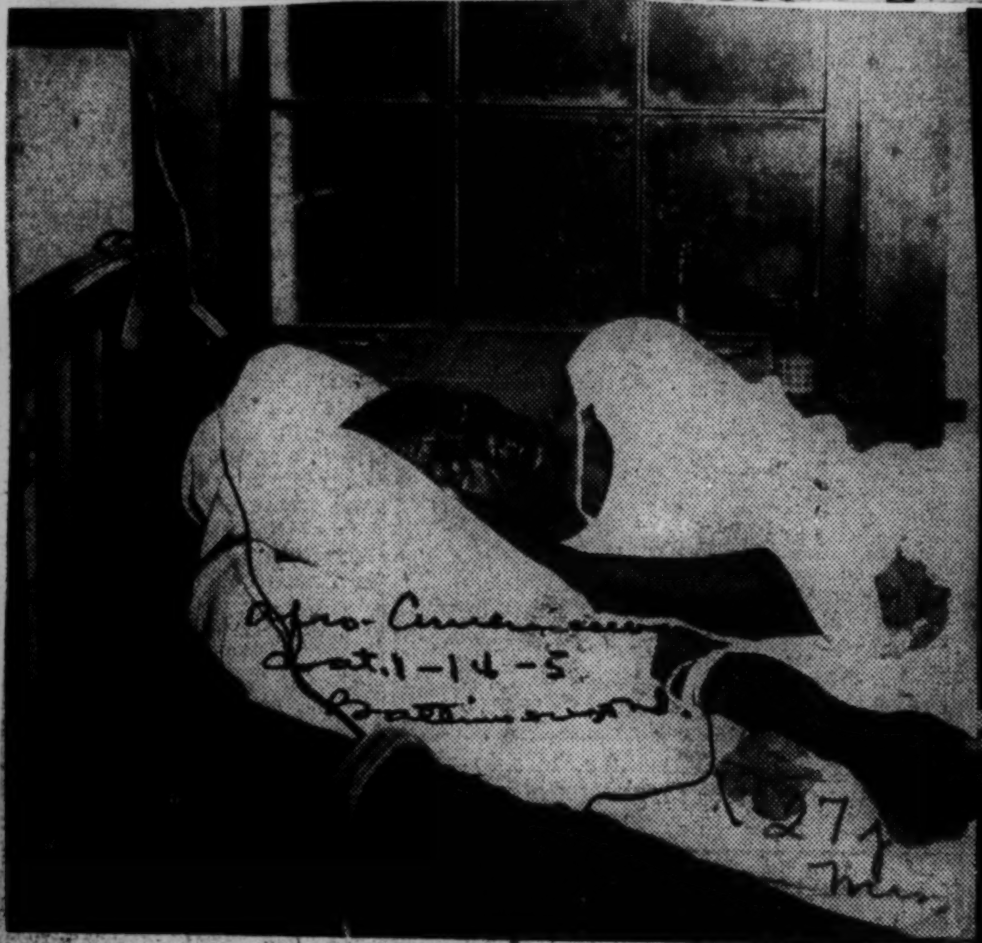
"The people of my county (Attala) are just as indignant about this matter as other peace loving, law abiding people of the United States. To show the feelings, it was necessary to remove these men to unannounced jails for safe keeping."

Governor Wright made a statement:

"The laws of Mississippi stand as a shield to protect and preserve the rights, the lives and the property of all our citizens, whatever their race may be; and

"Mississippians will not tolerate any such acts of wanton lawlessness as this horrible triple murder so recently committed in our midst."

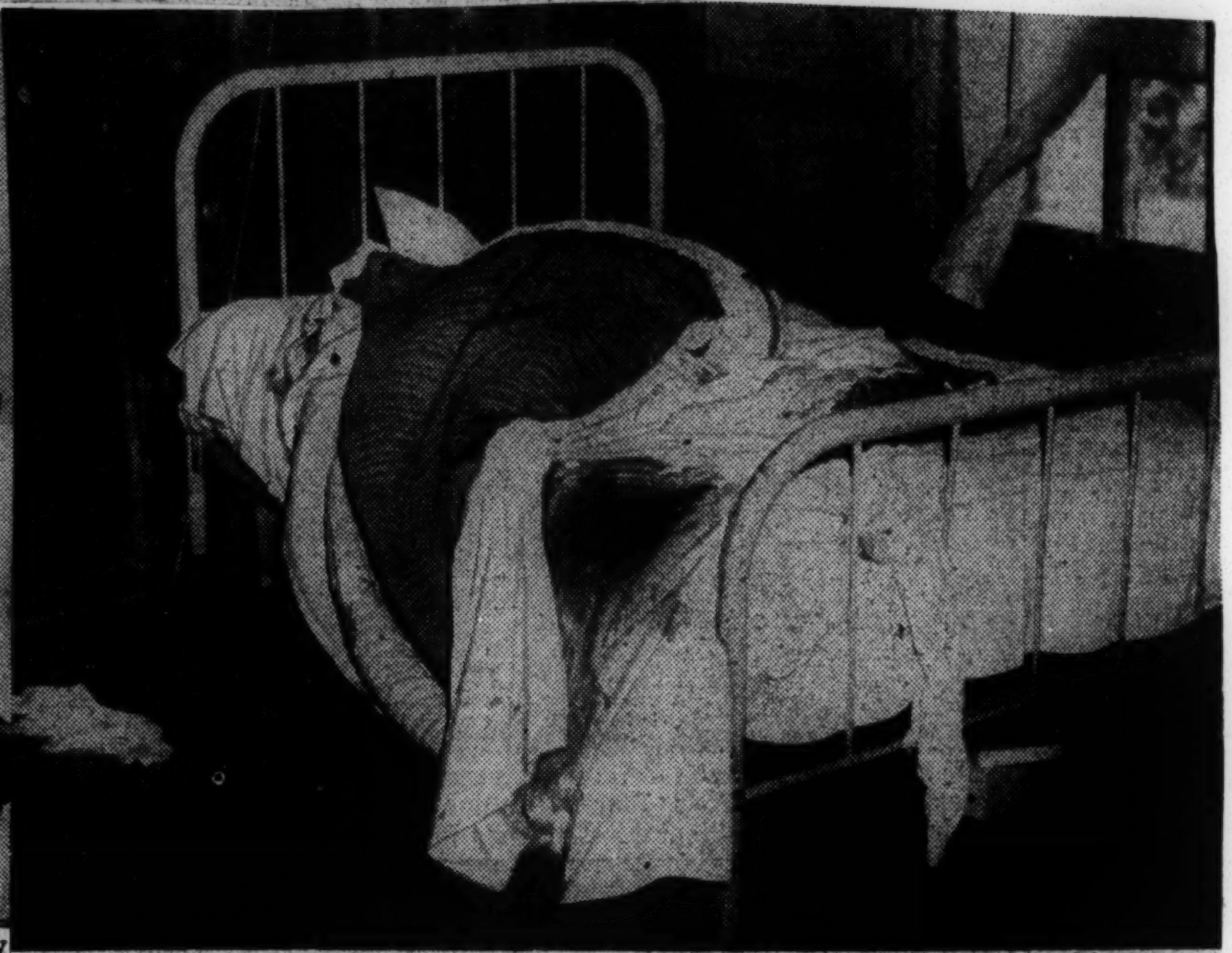
White Man's Desire for Teen-Ager Led to This in Mississippi



Afro-American
Sat. 1-14-5
Baltimore, Md.

(271)
Miss.

Critically wounded, Thomas Harris, father of the Kosciusko, Miss., family which was almost entirely wiped out in the revenge massacre, is receiving a blood transfusion at the Montford Jones Memorial Hospital of Kosciusko where he remains in a serious condition.



Two of the three children shot to death early Monday by three drunken fugitives were asleep in this bed. The little shoes on the floor are those of Nell Harris, 4. The blood spot at foot of bed shows where she died while kneeling in prayer. Streaks of blood on floor were caused when Sonny Man Thurman, 13, jumped out of bed and ran to a door before collapsing.

Courier-Journal

3 Fugitives Kill 3 Negro Children, Wound 4th and Father for Revenge

One In Family Tipped Off Police

Miss

By The United Press.

Kosciusko, Miss., Jan. 9.—Three escaped white convicts early today killed three Negro children and wounded a fourth and their father in a cold-blooded "revenge" slaughter, the highway patrol reported.

Jan. 10-50

The three killers were identified as men who broke out of the Attala County Jail here December 3[illegible]. They apparently set upon the Negro family because one of its members had tipped off police where they were hiding, the patrol said.

Louisville, Ky.

One of the convicts, Malcolm Whitt, 32, was arrested within a few hours of the shooting. A posse of 100 men is searching the area of Louise, Miss., for the other two. They were identified as Leon Turner, 38, and Wendell Whitt, 24, Malcolm's brother.

Father May Die

271

Killed by the gunmen as they prepared to rise for the day were Sonny Harris, 13; Nell Harris, 4, and Mary McAttee, 7, a half-sister of the other children.

The father, Tomas Harris, and his 15-year-old daughter, Verlene, were wounded seriously. Officers said Harris was not expected to live.

The mother of the children identified Turner as the man who did most of the shooting. She said she saved herself and her weeks-old baby by picking up the infant and running to the near-by home of former Circuit Judge John Allen, who called authorities.

Deputies found Mary dying in her bed; Nell's body was dangling partly off the bed, and the boy was found sprawled near the door.

Officers under Sheriff F. F. Munday of Leake County and Roy Braswell of Attala County immediately fanned out in a search for the desperadoes and found Malcolm Whitt in such a drunken condition he was unable to resist arrest. He denied any knowledge of the slaughter.

With Malcolm was a Negro, Caesar Young, who said the three convicts abducted him last night and forced him to ride with them over the countryside.

Young said the men were furious because the Harris family allegedly had informed on them and because one of the fugitives had attempted to rape Verlene several days ago, but had been scared away. The men were arrested at the Harris home last month on burglary charges.

8207

Gunmen Massacre Three Youngsters

1-10-50

Big Posse Hunts Two Men After Mississippi Deaths

KOSCIUSKO, Miss., Jan. 10—(AP)—A critically-wounded Negro early today gasped out a story that three white men massacred his family after attempting to possess his 14-year-old stepdaughter.

As the Negro, Thomas Harris, lay in a hospital here, shot in the back and lung, some 100 white possemen combed Central Mississippi hunting for two of the white men. A third was captured yesterday at noon.

Birmingham,

DIST. ATTY. HENRY RODGERS identified the captured man as Malcolm Whitt, 32. He said the two still hunted are Leon Turner, 38, an ex-convict, and Wendell Whitt, 24, Malcolm's brother.

Rodgers said all three had been held in Attalla County Jail on charges of attempting to rape the 14-year-old stepdaughter, Pearline Thurman. But 11 days ago they escaped, using a beer can opener to dig a hole in a cell wall.

The State Highway Patrol said the search for Turner and Wendell Whitt shifted to the vicinity of Tchula and Yazoo City about 50 miles west of Kosciusko. The patrol said that Malcolm Whitt told officers that he had let Turner and his brother out at the railroad yards near that area.

The yards said that authorities in Tennessee, Arkansas, Alabama and Louisiana had been alerted.

Rodgers said Harris gave him this statement for recording:

The two Whitts and Turner came to his home late Sunday night.

Turner told Harris he was going to have Harris' stepdaughter "or we're going to kill the whole damn bunch."

He marched Harris into the kitchen while one Whitt stood guard over the front door and the other over the back. Turner shot Harris in the back and then went into the bedroom where he killed three children: Frankie C. Thurman, 10; Mary Burnside, 8, and Ruby Nell Harris, 4.

The men were armed with a .22 rifle, another rifle of undetermined caliber, and a .38-caliber pistol.

* * *

RODGERS SAID Pearline Thurman told him she hopped out of bed and dashed for the back door but was turned back by one of the Whitts. She turned and scampered through the front door and under the house only to be pursued by the other Whitt who told her he would kill her if she did not come out.

As she came out and started up the front steps Turner shot her, Rodgers quoted her as saying. She was hit in the arm and breast.

She rested until she regained some strength and then, leaving a trail of blood, went to the home of neighbors.

Earlier, Deputy Sheriff Everett Bailey had identified the dead children as Sonny Man Harris, 13; Nell Harris, 4, and Mary McAtee, 7, a half-sister, and the wounded girl as Berlina Harris, 15.

Bailey said he had been given those names by persons living in the neighborhood. The discrepancy between the identifications given by Bailey and those given by Rodgers was not explained.

Bailey said Harris' wife fled in her nightclothes, taking with her an infant child only a few weeks old.

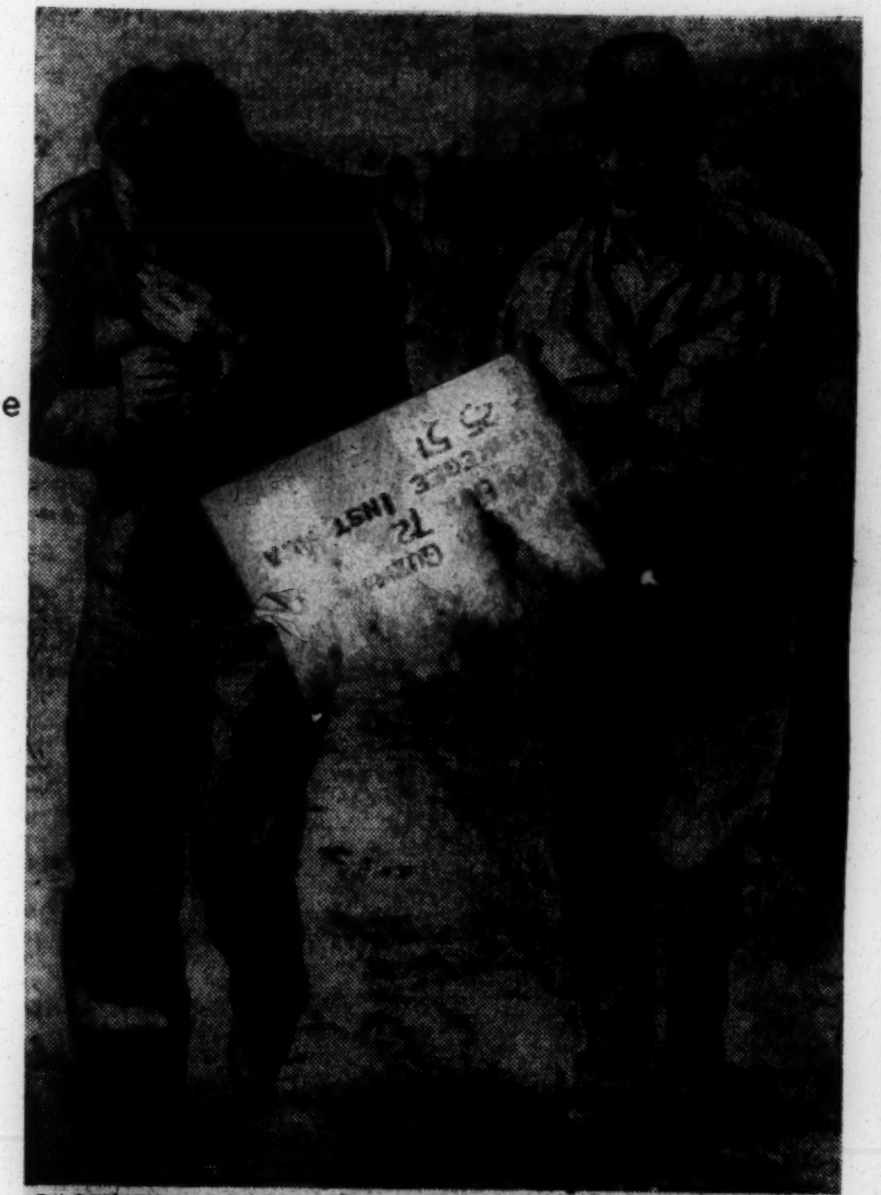
* * *

HE ATTRIBUTED the shooting to "mistaken vengeance." He said officers were convinced the white men returned and shot the Negroes because they believed Harris had turned them over to police last Dec. Actually, Bailey said, the tip on the whereabouts of the trio in Dec. came from another source.

"It was a case of mistakem revenge," Bailey added.

More than 100 white possemen combed Central Mississippi for more than 24 hours after the shooting. They captured the elder Whitt at noon yesterday as he attempted to escape in a commandeered truck. Some 40 Highway patrolmen were engaged in the manhunt, augmented by sheriff's officers from Leake, Attala, Humphries, Holmes and Yazoo counties.

News
Tues. 1-10-50
Birmingham, Ala.



CAPTURED AFTER MASSACRE—Malcolm Whitt, 32 (left) was captured yesterday in a huge manhunt for three white men in the gun slaying of three sleeping Negro children and the serious wounding of the head of the house, Thomas Harris, and his 14-year-old step-daughter. At right is Attalla County Deputy Sheriff O. O. Har[illegible] In the background is part of a 100-man posse that entered the hunt. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

Posse's Hunt For Fugitive Is Pressed

Age-Herald

Fri. 5-12-50

Birmingham, Ala.

271

IUKA, Miss., May 11.—(AP)—A posse plodded through a woods near here today in search of a Negro man who has eluded officers for two days.

The group, composed of Tennessee and Mississippi highway patrolmen and sheriff's deputies, moved cautiously because the man was believed armed with a .38 caliber pistol and 100 rounds of ammunition.

Tishomingo County Sheriff R. L Pace, Jr., said Shelton Seay, a dockhand, took the pistol and dashed for the hills after shooting up a Pickwick Lake fishing camp Tuesday night following a fight.

Pace's office was pessimistic about the case. Earlier it had said the man was surrounded on a hill 15 miles from here.

The fugutive may be wounded. Mississippi Patrolman Zeek Clark said he and another officer exchanged shots with him and later found blood in the area.

Pace said other officers had exchanged fire with the man and four or five cars were hit.

The sheriff's office said some 35 persons were in the posse. Among them was "Hog Jaw" Mullen, a Parchman Prison Farm trusty who brought his bloodhounds. Mullen and the dogs recently helped capture three white men wanted for slaying a Kosciusko family.

Iuka is in Northeast Mississippi near the Alabama and Tennessee borders.

27j 1950 Mississippi

8208

'Mad Dog' Victim

[illegible] Dat. 1-21-50 [illegible]

27j Miss

Shocked to that point from which there is no complete recovery, 14-year-old Pearline Thurman lies gravely wounded in Montfort Jones Hospital in Kosciusko, Miss., victim of a "mad dog" trio who killed two small sisters and brothers and wounded her stepfather, Thomas Harris, Sunday. Escaped prisoners sought "revenge" on Harris family, victims of robbery and attempted rape that sent them to jail. Object of drunken murder spree was to rape Pearline or "wipe out whole damn bunch." Shot in breast and arm, Pearline will recover.—Keystone photo.

Tip-Off Cited As Reason For Family Massacre

Atlanta, Ga.

World

Thurs. 1-12-50

Entire Negro Family Slain Or Injured In Revenge Act

Miss

SALLIS, Miss.—(INS)— Two escaped convicts, accused of the attempted "revenge" massacre of an entire family, were trapped Wednesday in a gun duel that climaxed a 48-hour manhunt.

27j

The Mississippi highway patrol calmly stated that Leon Turner, 39, and Wendell Whitt, 24, were taken "without trouble," but the first report failed to disclose how the pair resisted arrest.

Turner was shot by an ex-prizefighter, now serving a term in the Mississippi penitentiary. He was identified as J. B. Grammer, who well known in pugilism as "Hog Jaw Mullin."

Grammer, classified as a trusty and a handler of the prison bloodhound pack, flushed the fugitives in a tumbled-down potato shack, near Sallis.

An eye-witness member of the posse, who had combed central Mississippi for the escaped cons, told International News Service "Hog Jaw called for them to come out. Turner said he would. And within a matter of seconds, a couple of shots whistled across Hog Jaw's shoulder."

Grammer, who began his ring career at Greenwood, Miss., and subsequently became a contender for the middleweight title, emptied the revolver into the shed.

Turner was struck by one of several shots a penitentiary trusty fired as he led the posse to the house where the pair had been hiding.

As the posse waited, ready to spring, the trusty—controlling the bloodhounds tracked the pair from the home of Turner's father to the small house, a potato storage shack.

One of Grammer's bullets reportedly struck Turner in the right shoulder before the fugitives stumbled out of the shack and tried to evade the posse.

They were taken to the escape-proof Hinds County Jail at Jackson.

Malcolm Whitt, Wendell's 32-year-old brother, had been arrested soon after three Negro children were slain, their father critically wounded, and a step-sister shot at their tenant farmhouse in Newport, Miss., late Sunday night.

District Attorney Henry Rodgers said the three white men, who had broken out of the Kosciusko, Miss., jail on December 30 apparently thought the Negro family was responsible for their initial arrest.

Deputy sheriffs had picked them up on December 22 at the same house where the shootings later occurred.

Charges Slated Next Week Against Trio In 'Massacre'

Advertiser

277

Jan 1-13-50

Montgomery, Ala.

KOSCIUSKO, MISS., Jan. 12—(AP)—Charges will be filed early next week against three white men hunted down after the slaughter of three Negro children, Sheriff Roy Braswell said Thursday.

The three are 38-year-old ex-convict Leon Turner, and Wendell Whitt, 24, and Malcolm Whitt, 32, brothers.

The first two were trapped early Tuesday in a potato storage hut near Newport, Miss. Turner was slightly wounded. Malcolm Whitt surrendered earlier without a struggle.

All three denied staging the raid on the Harris household.

The manhunt started Sunday after the slaying of the children—Frankie Thurman, 10; Mary Burnside, 8, and Ruby Nell Harris, 4. Wounded in the same raid were Thomas Harris, 27, a Negro sharecropper and his 15-year-old stepdaughter, Pearline. The slain children were Harris' daughters and step-children.

Stormed Into Home

District Attorney Henry Rodgers said the trio of white men stormed into Harris' home Sunday drunk and vengeful. He said they blamed the Negro family for their arrest following an earlier visit in which they attempted to rape Harris' wife. They escaped after being jailed here by boring out of their cell with a beer can opener.

Sheriff Braswell said he will confer with Rodgers when the district attorney is free of other duties. He said charges of "some sort" will be filed against Howard Turner and Parvee Rutherford, Leon Turner's father and cousin and three Negro men.

He said the five now in the Attala County jail here are believed to have helped Turner and the Whitt brothers when they were fugitives.

Judge Coleman, who helped direct the posse, said the cases will be presented to the Attala County grand jury when it convenes here March 5.

Hero for the capture was a prison trusty, "Hogjaw" Mullen, a dog trainer at the Parchman, Miss., penitentiary. Mullen, listed in prison files as Clarence Grammer of Natchez, Miss., is serving a life term for murder.

He followed a pair of bloodhounds through Howard Turner's ramshackle home. Then two miles down a slimy red clay road to the potato house. There he flushed the two men, fired six shots at them and made them lie face-down at the point of his empty revolver.

Live To Tell Story Of Horrible Revenge Slaughter

Memphis, Tenn

Three escaped white convicts shocked the entire nation early last week when they staged a cold-blooded revenge slaying at Newport, Miss. near Kosciusko. The slaughter involved the killing of three Negro youngsters, critically wounding of their father. and a 15-year-old daughter.

World

These "on the scene shots" were made especially for the Memphis World shortly after the killers, all three fugitives from a Mississippi prison farm, had wreaked vengeance on the Thomas Harris family at his humble farm home on the Fallen Plantation.

Thomas Harris is shown lying in a critical condition at a Kosciusko hospital where he was taken following the shooting at his home at nearby Newport. Attendants at the hospital stated that bullet wounds in the back and other section of the body may paralyze him permanently in the event he does recover. He suffered the loss of great quantities of blood during the nearly six hours he lay in a semi-condition at his home before help came.

Tenn. 1-17-50

27j

Mrs. Harris, wife and mother of the slain children, was still so horrified by the experience that hours later she was not able to talk coherently, and was in such a nervous condition that the photographer had to use a special camera to get the picture shown center. She is holding the 2-year-old boy whose life she managed to save by "split seconds" by dashing out the back door of the house during the shooting.

Three grave markers bear mute testimony of the tragedy which snuffed out the lives of three innocent youngsters, Sonny Harris 11; Nell Harris, 4; and their 7-year-old half sister, Mary McAttee.

THE HARRIS HOME at Newport where the massacre took place. Relatives of the family are shown on the front porch. It was in this house that the three convicts, Leon Turner, 38, and the Whitt brothers, Malcolm, 36; and Wendell 34, came after escaping from prison and shot up the Harris family.

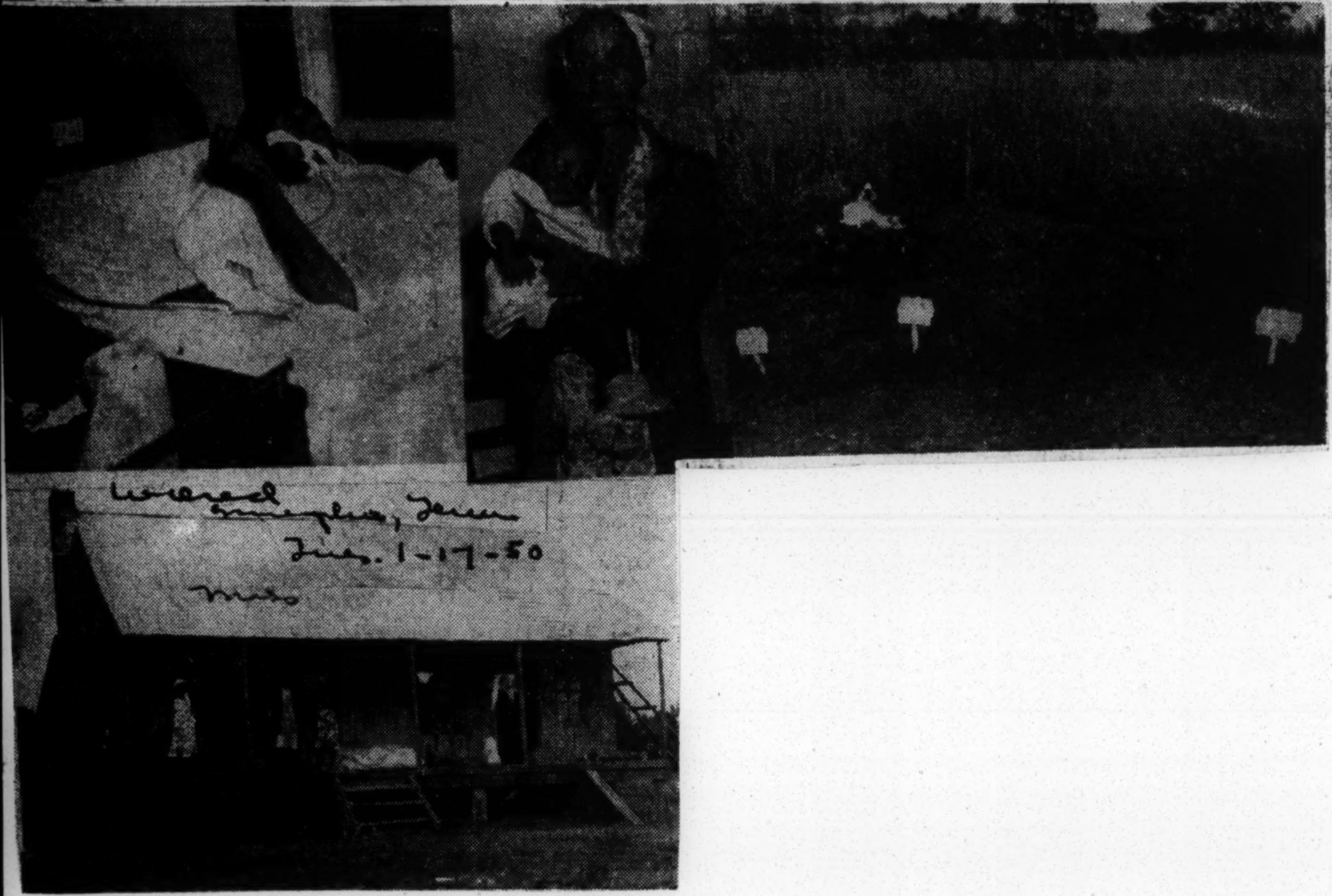
Authorities said the slayings apparently were carried out because the men had been arrested in the Negro family's house while attempting to burglarize it early in December, and molest Harris' 15-year-old daughter, Verlena.

All three fugitives were tracked down by a posse of one hundred men, including some of the trusties from the prison farm from which they escaped.

Sentiment against the men was intensified also by the threats they made against Judge John F. Fallen, who had previously sentenced the convicts on a burglary charge. During the manhunt, Judge Fallen's home was under heavy guard.

Death sentence for the slayers has already been asked by the State Senate of Mississippi through a resolution presented.

Farmer's Family Reveals First 1950 Lynching



World
Memphis, Tenn.
Tues. 1-17-50
Miss

8209

Afro-American
Sat. 1-21

Taken into custody early Monday morning was Malcomb Whitt, brother of Wendell. The Whitt brothers and Leon Turner escaped from the Attala County jail in Kosciusko last Friday and later committed the mass killing which shocked the nation. At right is Deputy Sheriff Q. Q. Harris of Attala County.

Continue Grilling Miss. Murder Suspects

Memphis Tenn.

JACKSON, Mississippi — Mississippi police at Jackson Friday continued grilling three convicts accused of trying to wipe out an entire family for revenge while a penitentiary inmate hoped his part in their capture would win him a third parole.

Clarence "Hog Jaw Mullin" Grammer is serving a 100-year murder sentence, but Mississippi Gov. Fielding L. Wright and the State Patrol Board will confer soon on the possibility of freeing him.

27j

"Hog Jaw," considered by Parchman Penitentiary Superintendent Marvin Wiggins a "model prisoner, who just can't seem to stay out of trouble of the outside," spearheaded the posse that captured Wendell Whitt and Leon Turner in a potato shed near Salis, Miss.

HANDLES BLOODHOUNDS

Grammer handled the bloodhounds that tracked down the pair after they and Whitt's brother, Malcolm, allegedly murdered three Negro children, critically wounded their father and shot a sister at the victims' home at Newport, Miss.

None of the three suspects has confessed.

Jan. 1-17-50

Meanwhile, at Starkville, Miss., students at the Mississippi State College took up a collection for the survivors of the attempted revenge massacre.

Grammer himself was given money soon after wounding Turner slightly and forcing him and Wendell Whitt to surrender. He took the money, uncounted, and returned to the Parchman jail.

Escaped Convicts Kill 3 Children

Jan. 1-10-50 Miss

KOSCIUSKO, Miss.—(INS)—Three escaped convicts reportedly shot three Negro children to death today and wounded two Negro adults at the house where the white men had been caught in the burglary attempt which cost them their freedom.

The three victims were 2, 4 and 11 years old. They were killed as they slept.

27j

Police said that one of the three fugitives from Kosciusko jail — Malcolm Whitt, about 36 — was later picked up when he tried to get out of town in a truck driven by a Negro.

Atlanta, Ga.

The other two — Wendell Whitt, about 34, Malcolm's brother, and Leon Turner, about 38 — were traced to Louise, Miss., by bloodhounds let loose by state highway police and Attala County Sheriff Roy Braswell.

The trio was arrested early in December for attempting to burglarize a Negro home on the plantation owned by Judge John Fallen, at Newport, Miss. Police said they had several other burglary charges pending against them when they were convicted of the robbery attempt.

The men broke out of the Kosciusko jail on December 30.

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2 Still Sought In 'Massacre'

Advertiser

Wed. — Miss.

KOSCIUSKO, MISS., Jan. 10—(AP)—A posse hunted a 15-square mile area 12 miles southwest of here Tuesday night for two white men wanted in the cold-blooded massacre of three Negro children and the attempted rape of a teen-aged Negro girl.

Through brush and mud the manhunt pushed ahead in a driving rain in Mississippi's central hill country.

Montgomery

District Attorney Henry Rodg-ers identified the two white men sought as Wendell Whitt, 24, and Leon Turner, a former convict. A third man, Malcolm Whitt, 32-year-old brother of Wendell, was captured at his home near here Monday without a fight. He denied any connection with the affair and was whisked to an undisclosed jail.

27j

The children shot to death Sunday in their beds were Frankie C. Thurman, 10, Mary Burnside, 8, and Ruby Nell Harris, 4. Pearline Thurman was wounded in the arm and right breast.

Arkansas officers jumped into the hunt when two men, reported to answer the description of the fugitives crossed the Mississipp bridge at Greenville.

Police officers in Louisiana Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas had been alerted previously

Convict Captures 2 Accused Killers In Shack After Beating Them to Draw

Courier-Journal
Thurs.
Miss
1-12-50
Louisville, Ky.

Lifer May Win His Freedom

Kosciusko, Miss., Jan. 11 (U.P.)—A cocky ex-boxer serving a life term for murder beat two accused killers to the draw and captured them today in a feat that may win him freedom.

C. B. Grammer, 32, known in the ring as "Hogjaw Mullen," was sent in with three bloodhounds to get Leon Turner, 38, and Wendell Whitt, 24, after a 100-man posse had trapped them in the rocky hills. Hogjaw delivered his men.

State officials indicated he would receive favorable consideration at the next Parole Board meeting.

274

Turner and Whitt were wanted for the cold-blooded slaughter of three Negro children in a raid on a share-cropper's cabin. For three days the possee had drawn a tightening ring around them.

Then they sent for Grammer, who once before won a parole for catching criminals, only to get in trouble again and go back to Parchman State Penitentiary.

At a rendezvous in the pitch-black, predawn hours Hogjaw arrived on the scene, wearing his convict pants and two pistols strapped to his legs.

"I'll go get 'em," he said.

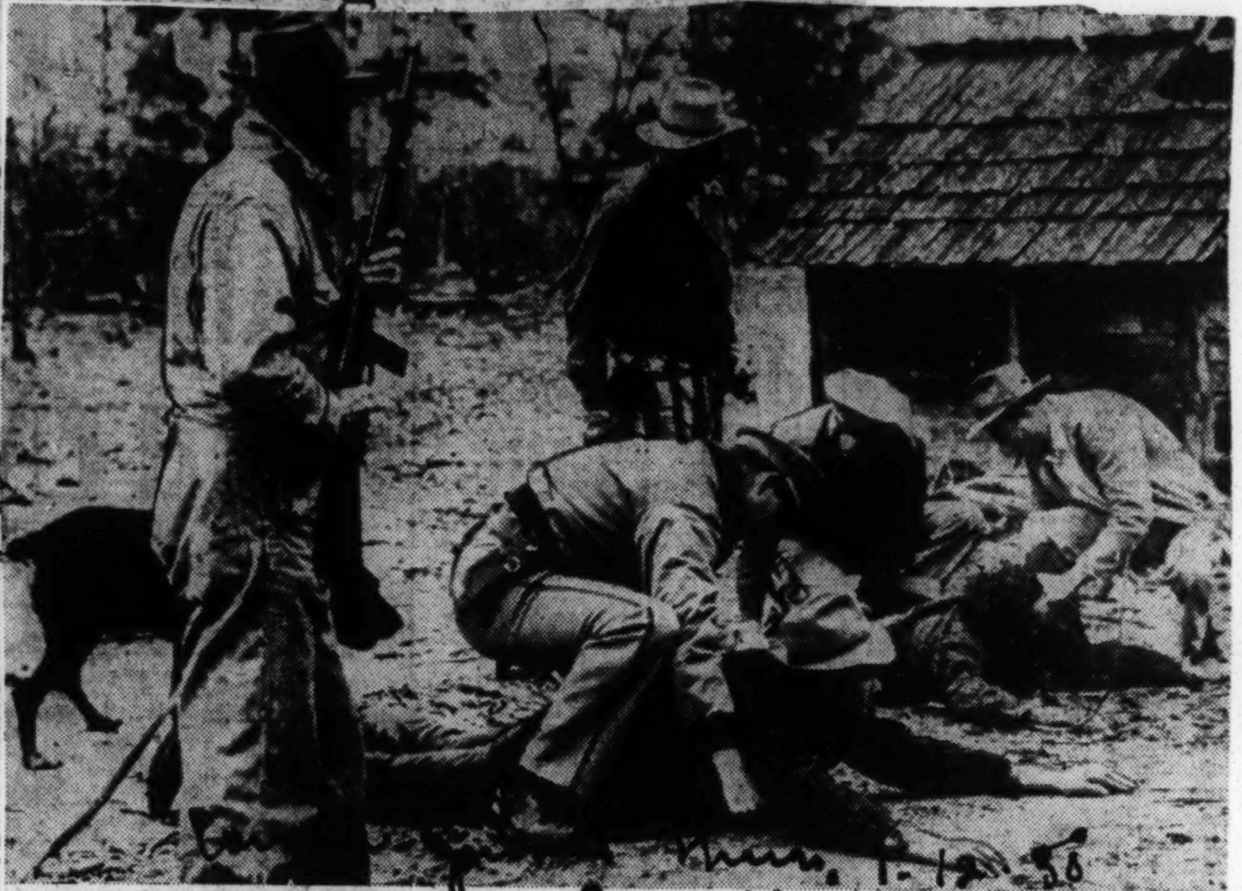
It was a tough assignment. Turner, identified as the trigger man in the massacre, is a deadly shot. He can toss coins into the air and plug them as they come down. Hogjaw had served time with him at Parchman and knew his reputation.

Grammer went toward the fugitives' last stronghold with the first light. The dogs led him to a potato curing shack.

'I Let Out A Yell'

"I let out a yell and made a dash toward the shack," he said. "Turner and Whitt came running out. I let go nine shots. One of them hit Turner in the back as he attempted to go for his pistol. Another one got him in the knee."

Grammer pounced on the wounded Turner and held him. Whitt surrendered meekly.



Courier-Journal Thurs. 1-12-50
Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press Wirephoto

END OF THE TRAIL . . . Desperadoes Leon Turner, foreground, and Wendell Whitt lie on the ground while officers search them after their capture. Prison trusty C. B. Grammer, who trailed the men in the Mississippi hills, stands with the bloodhound used in the man hunt.

8210

McComb Miss Enterprise-Journal

POSSE SEIZES LONG-HUNTED PAIR—Leon Turner (left center) and Wendell Whitt (right center) are seized by possemen near Sallis, Miss., for the massacre of three Negro children. Searchers in the 57-hour manhunt found the fugitives hiding in a potato storage house (background). They and Whitt's brother Malcolm, captured previously, were sought for the attack on the children who were shot to death in their home near Kosciusko, Miss., Sunday night.—(AP Wirephoto).

27J Miss Jan. 1-12-50

Chair Will Be Demanded For Trio Of Killers; 1st Degree Murder To Be Charged To 'Massacre' Figures

McComb Miss Enterprise-Journal

KOSCIUSKO, Miss., Jan. 12—Death in the electric chair will be demanded for the three men who took part in the Sunday night "revenge massacre" of three Negro children.

Ex-convict Leon Turner, 38, and Wendell Whitt, 24, were taken in a dramatic capture Wednesday morning. Within hours Dist. Atty. Henry L. Rogers said charges of first degree murder, carrying a mandatory death penalty, had been filed against the pair and Malcolm Whitt, 32, a brother of Wendall.

27J

Led by convict trusty C. E. Grammar, known as "Hog Jaw Mullens," a posse of more than 100 men trapped Turner and Wendall Whitt in a potato shed two and a half miles from the Howard Turner home at 9:30 Wednesday morning. The Turner home is 10 miles south of here.

Miss

Roadblocks Thrown Up

Late Tuesday night officers had received a hot tip that the men were hiding near the home of Turner's father. Roadblocks had been thrown up at Goodman, Pickens, Newport, and near Judge John [illegible]'s home and Thomastown road.

Jan. 1-12-50

Leading a small group of men with the bloodhounds was Sheriff Ray Braswell of Attala County. District Inspector Charles Smith led the Highway Patrol in the hunt.

Early Wednesday morning the posse, which was composed of Mississippi Highway patrolmen, sheriffs, deputies and constables, located the men. They had waited all night for daybreak to continue their search.

A graphic description of the final capture of the two desperadoes was given by Billy McMillan, Kosciusko photographer.

"We had been waiting all night—and at 7 o'clork 'Hog Jaw Mullens,' wearing a red shirt and striped prison trousers, took off with three bloodhounds. He had a pistol strapped to his right leg.

Dogs Head For Shed

"'Hog Jaw' took the dogs through the Turner home where they picked hp the trail. They left the house on a run. They went through the woods and for a while they lost the trail.

"Shortly they picked it up again. They kept going and we kept following them. Close behind 'Hog Jaw' was Attala County Constable Hugh Bailey of Kosriusko. He was armed with an automatic rifle.

Enterprise-Journal

Around 9 o'clock they were about two miles and a half from the Turner home and they saw a barn and a small potato shed. The dogs were still on the trail—but not baying.

1-12-50

"The trusty and the constable looked the situation over and the trusty began to let the dogs go again. They were not trailing. He crept up to the barn and the dogs headed for the shed. One of the dogs, Nigger, poked his head into the potato shed and let out a bark—and 'Hog Jaw' knew he had something.

"Everyone had been told to shoot to kill—because they knew Turner was an expert shot—'Hog Jaw' fired six shots into the potato house and Constable Bailey fired six rounds from the rifle, from a distance.

"'Hog Jaw' crawled toward the potato house — and told Turner and Whitt to come out crawling—and they did."

Turner was the first to speak.

"What you shoot at me for—I ain't done nothing but broke out of jail," Turner said.

"Where's that pistol?" the trusty asked.

"What you talking about?" Turner replied.

"Where's that gun?" "Hog Jaw" demanded nervously.

"We ain't got no gun," Turner said.

Pistol Is Found

Turner and Whitt crawled out of the potato house, which had been filled with corn shucks and in it officers found a .38 caliber pistol and several blankets.

It was evident that Turner and Whitt had been asleep and had not heard the approach of the posse.

Turner was bleeding about the face and left side. Whitt was not wounded.

Both Turner and Whitt denied knowing anything about the murder of the three Negro children and the wounding of their sister and stepfather.

TOWN MARSHAL AT BATESVILLE FATALLY SHOT

McComb Miss

Companion Seriously Wounded—Gunman In Undisclosed Mississippi Jail

Enterprise-Journal

OFFICER, 49, IS VICTIM

BATESVILLE, Miss., May 8—Samuel T. McCachren, 49-year-old town marshal of Pope, Miss., was shot to death and his brother-in-law seriously wounded by a whiskey-crazed Negro Saturday night in Pope, several miles south of here.

Mon. 5-8-50

Sheriff E. B. Wilson and a heavily armed posse Sunday afternoon captured a Negro following a night-long hunt. The sheriff identified him as Lionel Henderson and said he has been charged with murder. Henderson lives about 12 miles east of Batesville.

Victim Paralyzed

In a serious condition in Grenada Hospital—paralyzed from the waist down by a bullet through the neck—is Eddie Weaver, 32, a teacher in a Negro G. I. training school.

Marshal McCachren was killed instantly by a bullet in the head and one in the chest.

27J

The Negro was taken to an undisclosed jail for safekeeping.

S. J. Robertson, the only white witness, said the shooting took place in the street directly in front of his filling station. Mr. Robertson said Marshal McCachren and Mr. Weaver were attempting to quiet a disturbance among a group of Negroes, when one suddenly backed off and started shooting.

Miss

R. O. Shinn, alderman and town clerk, said neither of the white men was armed. The Negro fled the scene of the murder on foot and for several hours eluded an intensive manhunt.

Offered No Resistance

A false clew in the form of a Chevrolet truck threw the officers off track for the first few hours. They readily determined that a truck at the scene belonged to the killer, but found it registered in the name of Walter Wright, who later proved to be a white man who had sold the truck to Henderson.

Enterprise-Journal

Sheriff Wilson said they apprehended Henderson about 20 miles east of Batesville, through the aid of the Negro's relatives and Selmer Dees, who knew him. Even though the Negro had been described as dangerous and heavily armed, he gave himself up with no resistance, after Mr. Dees and members of his family had talked to him.

5-8-50

Sheriff Wilson said he and the deputies took the Negro into custody and rushed him to Grenada, where they stopped and called the Mississippi Highway Patrol, who picked him up there and took him to an unannounced jail.

Mr. McCrachren was born near Pope and lived all his life there. Prior to being elected marshal he worked for Panola County in the road maintenance department.

Mississippi Mad Dog Killers Slay 3, Shoot 2 In Revenge On Family

Defender Nat. 1-21-50 Chicago, Ill.

274

KOSCIUSKO, Miss.—A terror stricken injured girl and her critically wounded father gasped out unbelievably horrible details of Mississippi's bloody "mad dog" killings last week that may send three white killers to the electric chair.

What 14-year-old Pearline Thurman and her stepfather, Thomas Harris told District Atty. Henry Rodgers between sobs at Montfort Jones Hospital here, was how their family, asleep after Sunday evening worship, was suddenly awakened by a drunk, hate crazed trio intent on rape and murder.

Their stories may form the state's case against Leon Turner, 18, an ex-convict and leader of the gang; Malcolm Whitt, 32, and his brother, Wendell, 24.

Half the Harris family was wiped out by the mad dog gang. Victims are Nell Ruby Harris, 4; Mary Burnside, 8, a stepdaughter, and Frankie Thurman, 10, Pearline's full brother.

The trio battered down the door of Harris' tenant farm house at midnight Sunday, and in a maniacal drunken orgy, killed three children and wounded Harris and Pearline. They intended to rape Pearline or wipe out the family, Malcolm Whitt later confessed.

A posse of 100 deputies and outraged citizens beat through the rain soaked mid-Mississippi country for 57 hours before the last of the gang was rounded up. When Leon Turner crawled out of a potato house with a prison trusty's bullet in his back, Tuesday, police still had to use force to subdue him.

Behind him, terror struck and pleading for mercy, came Wendell Whitt, the third member of the gang. Malcolm was cornered Monday, in his mother's home, still drunk.

The mass murder orgy was the second crime spree by the trio within three weeks. On December 22, drunk and armed, they broke into the home of a Negro tenant farmer near Harris' home. While the Whitts searched for money, Turner attempted to rape a woman in the house. When her granddaughter ran for help, they fled, going to Harris' house where they broke down the door.

Turner attempted to rape Harris' wife, and Whitts began a search for cash. Two deputies arrived and arrested the marauders, who were placed in Attala County Jail.

The Escape

Several days later, the desperadoes dug their way out with a [illegible] ed to [illegible] in

Rules Committee tries to block the FEPC bill, he'll appeal to the Speaker to bring up the measure under the 21-day rule. The measure is expected to be acted upon sometime before January 23.

On the Senate side, Majority Leader Scott has announced the fair employment measure will be taken up after consideration of a new housing bill for middle-income families. The measure will face a stiff floor fight and a filibuster, which, under present Se-e rules, will be almost impossi-e to stop.

Revealing that to date civil ghts legislation has not been scussed in any GOP policy eetings, Senator Robert Hend-ckson (R., N. J.) is threatening break the too-long silence. He ld reporters that he will move amend the Republican-sired ti-filibuster rule so that a talk-hon can be shut off by a [illegible] itutional majority.

The Ne [illegible]

"revenge."

On Sunday, after drinking themselves into homicidal frenzy from a five gallon keg of raw moonshine, the three broke into the Harris home again.

From his hospital bed, Harris told the district attorney how Turner announced that he was going to rape Pearline "or we're going to kill the whole damn bunch."

While Wendell Whitt, armed with a shotgun, and Malcolm brandishing a .22 rifle, blocked the doors, Turner marched Harris into the kitchen and shot him in the back.

Turner then went into the children's room. While Ruby Nell pleaded "Don't shoot me, Mr. Leon," Turner killed her. Then he turned his .38 caliber automatic on Mary. Frankie got as far as the door before Turner shot him dead.

The Chase

Harris' wife picked up the youngest child, a baby of a few weeks, and she and Pearline tried to es- [illegible] was trapped under [illegible] who threatened [illegible] not go back in to [illegible] started up the steps, [illegible] girl told Rodgers, Turner [illegible] through the door and shot her in the breast and arm. She collapsed.

Thinking they had wiped out the family, the trio fled. When she recovered, Pearline, streaming blood, made her way to a neighbor's house.

Next stop of the trio was at the home of Caesar Young, whom they forced to drive them to Wolf Lake in Humphrey County. There they stole his truck, and split up, Malcolm taking the truck.

By this time the manhunt was organized. Led by three bloodhounds, "Red," "Nigger," and "Bama," handled by J. B. "Hogjaw Mullins" Granmer, the posse picked up the trail at the Turner home.

The Quarry

According to Hogjaw, Red led the trail to a still, and then to the shack. Peering in an opening, Hogjaw saw Turner crouching on the floor and Whitt lying under a quilt.

"Alright, Turner, come on out," Hogjaw yelled.

"Yeah," Turner answered, and fired over his shoulder.

Hogjaw sent six slugs ripping through the shack. One caught Turner in the back. It would have killed him had it not gone through a board.

Turner came out as the rest of the posse closed in with guns leveled. They had to hit him several times before he stopped fighting. His trembling crony followed.

Turner, ringleader of the mad dog gang, served a 10 year sentence for assault with intent to kill.

The Harris home is on the plantation of John F. Allen, former circuit judge. Mrs. Harris fled there on the night of terror, and Judge Allen called Sheriff Roy Braswell to form a posse.

under the State of Illinois, has headquarters at 82 W. Washington st. A municipal agency is gathering evidence which will be used in the near future to have the organization's charter revoked.

Want To Segregate

Recently Beauharnais launched a drive 2,000,000 names to petition Mayor Martin H. Kennelly and the city council for "passage of a law to contain Negroes within restricted residential areas."

On Jan. 7, the group held its first "mass" meeting at Woodlawn Boys' Club, 64th and University. Only 35 persons attended. During the session, Beauharnais told the gathering that the purpose of the meeting was to recruit workers.

Case of Brutality

The first case of alleged brutality against the White Circle League of America, Inc., was bared this week.

Mrs. Ann Esther Mirabelli, the owner of a store at 315 West 63rd st. and who lives at 4416 North Clifton, claims she was attacked by two hooded men of the League at her home at 2:15 a.m. last Tuesday.

She explained that she called on the Englewood police for help. They refused she said stating I was "mentally deranged."

The alleged victim is suffering with a serious case of cancer.

Jailer, Sheriff Blamed in Miss. Triple-Murder

Afro-American

Nat. 2-11-50

274

Witness Hints Men Who Cold-Bloodedly Killed 3 Tots Were Let Out of Jail for Job

NEW YORK—The urgent demand that the jailer and the sheriff of Kosciusko, Miss., be indicted along with the three white suspects who were jailed in the Jan. 9, mass murder of three children and the wounding of another child was voiced here, last week, by the Civil Rights Congress.

Baltimore

William L. Patterson, executive secretary of CRC, based his demand on a sworn affidavit received from Allen Burnside, 24, whose slain sister, Mary McAfee, was boarding with share-cropper Thomas Harris at the time the white jail "escapees," bent on attacking a girl, 17, fatally shot three members of the household.

Burnside, who was visiting Kosciusko when the slayings occurred, in his affidavit, stated that the murderers of the three children, who the jailer said escaped from jail where they were held on rape charges "sometime between 1:30 and 2 a.m., on Jan. 9," shot up the Harris home at about 4:20 or 4:30 that same morning.

Seen on Street Day Before

He contends that the sheriff's statement about the time of the escape is untrue, because on Sunday, Jan. 8, two witnesses saw Leon Turner, 32, one of the murderers, standing in front of the Methodist Church in Kosciusko, talking with three women.

He, himself, saw Turner walking freely on the streets of the city on the day before the murder, Burnside, who is now in St. Louis, Mo., informed the CRC, adding:

"Turner and his mother were on friendly terms with the jailer, the sheriff and the Mayor of Kosciusko. At the time he was first arrested, he told Mr. Rogers, the circuit attorney, that as soon as he got out, he was 'gonn'a go over and wipe out the whole bunch' at the Harris place."

Officer Complicity Charged

Patterson, in releasing Burnside's document, signed on Jan. 25, stated: "On the basis of this affidavit, we (CRC) charge that both the jailer and the sheriff were in complicity with the three murderers of the colored children."

The white men had been arrested in the frst place, Patterson said he was informed by Burnside, on the charge of criminally attacking Pauline Thurman, 17, Harris's stepdaughter, the girl whom they assertedly went after again on the night of the triple slayings.

Arrested for slaying Sonny Man Thurman, 13, Nell Harris, 4, and Mary Turner, Malcomb and Melvin Whitt have been returned to the same jail from which they allegedly escaped before they executed their fiendish conspiracy.

Conviction Doubtful

Although the Governor and legislature of Mississippi have asked that the full punishment of the law—death—be meted out to the slayers, Burnside added, there is a good chance that the three murderers will not be convicted.

He bases his belief on the fact that the circuit attorney has not even taken the prisoners out to be positively identified by the wounded Harris, who may never live to get out of the hospital, and that Pauline, the only other witness in the case who can positively identify the three, is afraid to talk, "because the men might escape again and kill her surely, this time."

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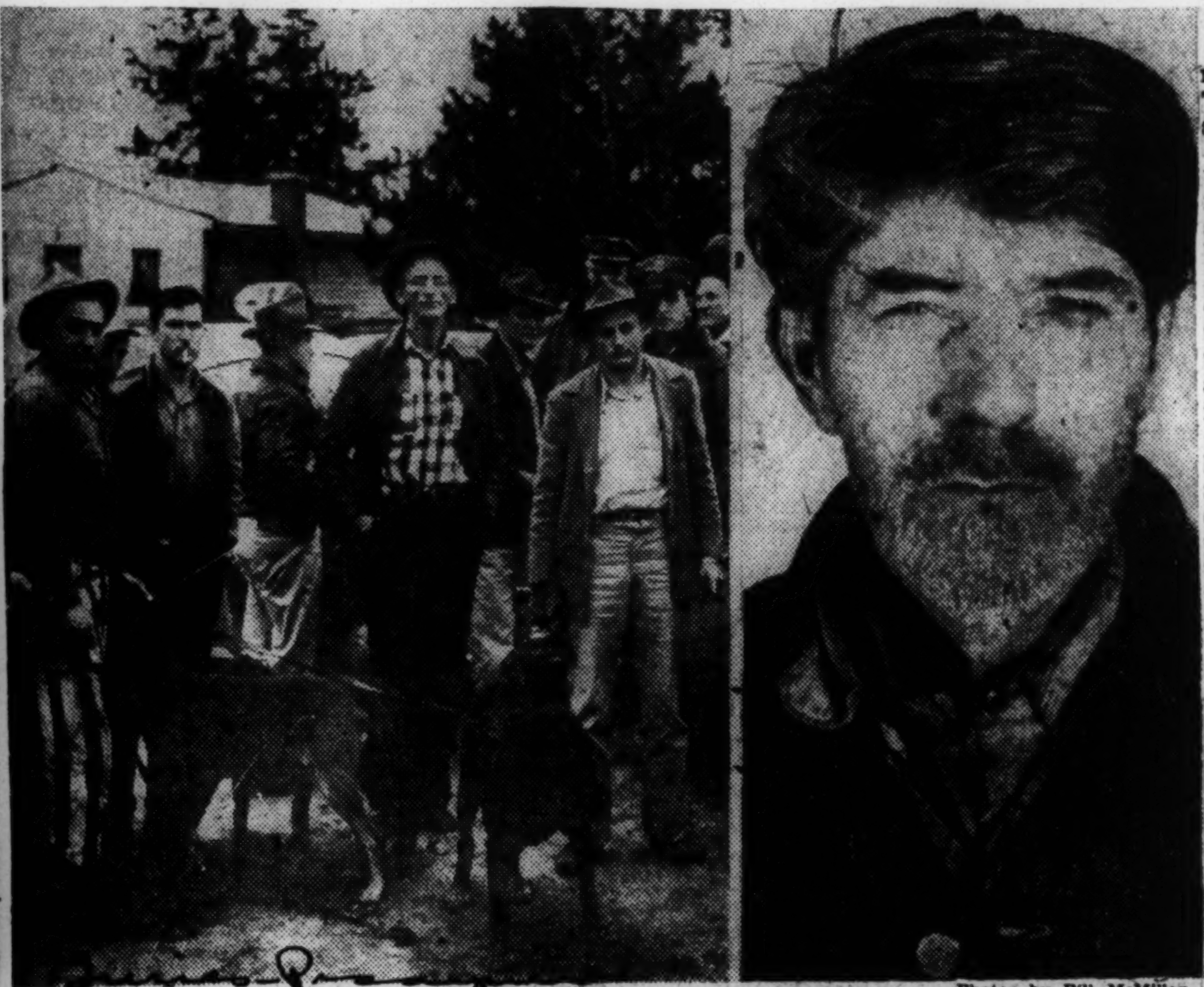


—Photos by Bill McMillan.

FAST-FINGERED PRISON TRUSTY who collared two men hunted in the slaying of three Negro children near Kosciusko was "Hog Jaw" Mullen (extreme left) of the Mississippi penitentiary at Parchman. Mullen, whose real name is C. E. Grammar, followed a brace of bloodhounds to the hideout of the pair sought. In photo with Mullen are other members of the posse seeking the pair, and at extreme right is Attala county Sheriff Roy Braswell. In photo at right is Howard Turner, father of Leon Turner, one of the pair captured. Howard Turner is being held for aiding a fugitive.

27j 1-13-50

To File Charges Next Week in Attala Child Slaughter

Five Held in Kosciusko for Aiding Fugitives

(The Associated Press)

Kosciusko, Miss., Jan. 12—Charges will be filed early next week against three white men hunted down after the slaughter of three Negro children, Sheriff Roy Braswell said Thursday.

27j 1-13-50

The three are 38-year-old ex-convict Leon Turner and Wendell Whitt, 24, and Malcolm Whitt, 32, brothers.

The first two were trapped early Wednesday in a potato storage hut near Newport, Miss. Turner was slightly wounded. Malcolm Whitt surrendered earlier without a struggle.

The pair was hustled to the Hinds county jail at Jackson, tthe state capital. All three denied staging the raid on the Harris household.

The manhunt started last Sunday after the slaying of the children—Frankie Thurman, 10; Mary Burnside, 8, and Ruby Nell Harris, 4. Wounded in the same raid were Thomas Harris, 27, a Negro sharecropper, and his 15-year-old step-daughter Pearline. The slain children were Harris daughters and stepchildren.

District Attorney Henry Rodgers said thetrio of white men stormed into Harris' home Sunday drunk and vengeful. He said they blamed tthe Negro family for their arrest following an earlier visit in which they attempted to rape Harris' wife. They escaped after being jailed here by boring out of their cell with a beer can opener.

Sheriff Braswell said he will confer with Rodgers when the district attorney is free of other duties. He said charges of "some sort" will be filed against Howard Turner and Parvee Rutherford, Leon Turner's father and cousin, and three Negro men.

He said the five now in the Attala county jail here are believed to have helped Turner and the Whitt brothers when they were fugitives.

Judge John Coleman, who helped direct Wednesday's posse, said the cases will be presented to the Attala county grand jury when it convenes here March 3.

Sheriff Braswell said he had released five children of Howard Turner and Whitt's mother and step-father, Pat Baldridge.

Thev were all jailed Wednesday while officers patrolled this hilly, rugged backwood country in search of Turner and Wendell Whitt.

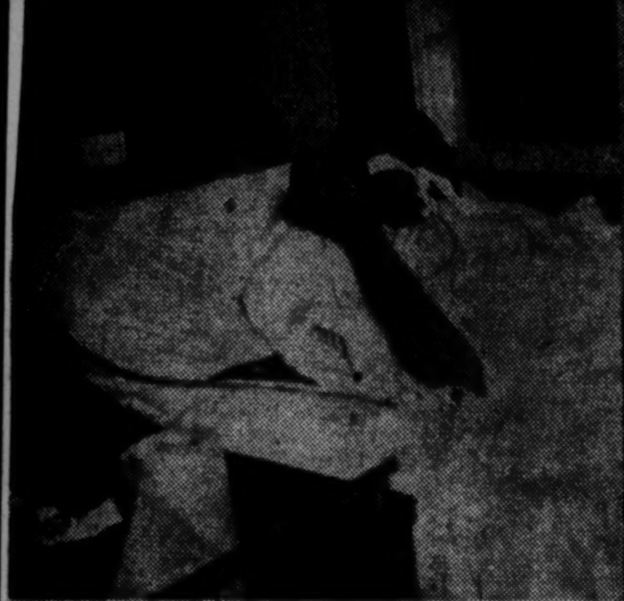
Hero of the capture was a prison trusty, "hogjaw" Mullen, a dog trainer at the Parchman penitentiary. Mullen, listed in prison as Clarence Grammer of Natchez, is serving a life term for murder.

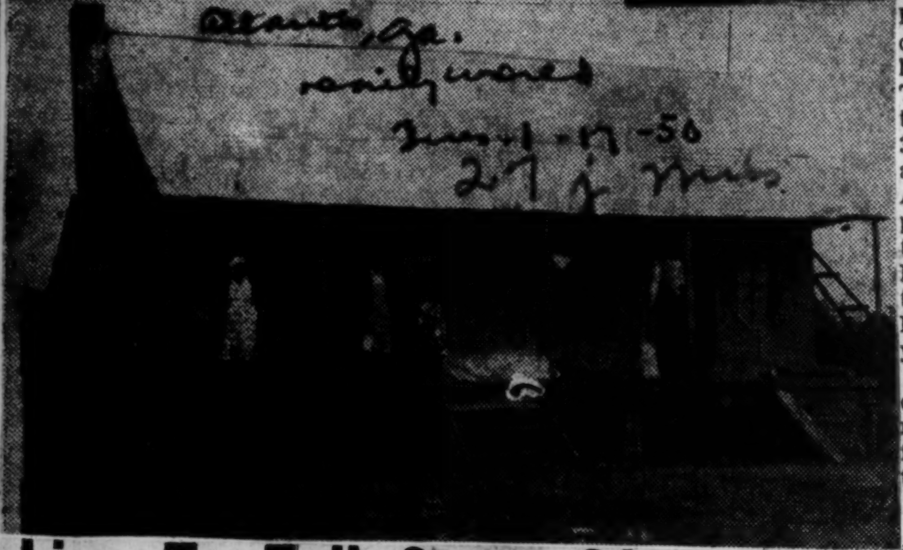
He followed a pair of bloodhounds through Howard Turner's ramshackle home, then two miles down a slimy red clay road to the potato house. There he flushed the two men, fired six shots at them and made them lie facedown at the point of his empty revolver.

Turner was wounded in the back.

There was some talk that Trusty Mullen might win his freedom by capturing the pair, but penitentiary superintendent Marvin Wiggins, who would have to recommend the clemency, said Mullen had been set free similiarly once before only to run afoul the law again.

"He's a model prisoner," Wiggins said, "but he can't seem to stay out of trouble on the outside."





Atlanta, Ga.
Daily World
Jan. 17-50
2-7 j Mrs.

Live To Tell Story Of Horrible Revenge Slaughter

Three escaped white convicts shocked the entire nation early last week when they staged a cold-blooded revenge slaying at Newport, Miss. near Kosciusko. The slaughter involved the killing of three Negro youngsters, critically wounding of their father. and a 15-year-old daughter.

These "on the scene shots" were made especially for the Memphis World shortly after the killers, all three fugitives from a Mississippi prison farm, had wreaked vengeance on the Thomas Harris family at his humble farm home on the Fallen Plantation.

Thomas Harris is shown lying in a critical condition at a Kosciusko hospital where he was taken following the shooting at his home at nearby Newport. Attendants at the hospital stated that bullet wounds in the back and other section of the body may paralyze him permanently in the event he does recover. He suffered the loss of great quantities of blood during the nearly six hours he lay in a semi condition at his home before help came.

Mrs. Harris, wife, and mother of the slain children, was still so horrified by the experience that hours later she was not able to talk coherently, and was in such a nervous condition that the photographer had to use a special camera to get the picture shown center. She is holding the 2-year-old boy whose life she managed to save by "split seconds" by dashing out the back door of the house during the shooting.

Three grave markers bear mute testimony of the tragedy which snuffed out the lives of three innocent youngsters, Sonny Harris, 11; Nell Harris, 4; and their 7-year-old half sister, Mary McAttee.

THE HARRIS HOME at Newport where the massacre took place. Relatives of the family are shown on the front porch. It was in this house that the three convicts, Leon Turner, 38, and the Whitt brothers, Malcolm, 36; and Wendell, 34, came after escaping from prison and shot up the Harris family. Authorities said the slayings apparently were carried out because the men had been arrested in the Negro family's house while attempting to burglarize it early in December, and molest Harris' 15-year-old daughter, Verlena.

All three fugitives were tracked down by a posse of one hundred men, including some of the trusties from the prison farm from which they escaped.

Sentiment against the men was intensified also by the threats they made against Judge John F. Fallen, who had previously sentenced the convicts on a burglary charge. During the manhunt, Judge Fallen's home was under heavy guard.

Death sentence for the slayers has already been asked by the State Senate of Mississippi through a resolution presented.

Atlanta, Ga.
Jan. 17, 50
Daily World

Three Children Slain In Beds In Mississippi

Advertiser
Jan. 1-10-50.
Montgomery Ala.

Two More Are Hurt; Suspect Held, 2 Others Sought By Big Posse

27J

KOSCIUSKO, MISS., Jan. 9.—(AP)—Three Negro children were slaughtered in their beds Sunday night. Their father and sister were seriously wounded.

Aroused by the outrage, more than 100 men scoured central Mississippi Monday night for two white men. A third has been caught.

The three, said Mrs. Roy Braswell, a deputy sheriff, dug out of the Attala County jail ten days ago with a can opener.

They were arrested on burglary charges last month, she added, at the same place where Sunday night's shooting occurred—the tenant farm home of the Negroes on a plantation.

Deputy Sheriff Everett Bailey named the slain children as Sonny Man Harris, 13, Nell Harris, 4, and Mary McAtee, 7, a half-sister. The father, Thomas Harris, was not expected to live. A 15-year-old daughter, Verlinda, also was wounded.

Highway Patrol Capt. A. S. Windham and Mrs. Braswell said the five were Negroes.

Mother Fled

Bailey said the mother fled the tenant house in her night clothes, taking with her a few weeks old baby. She fled to the plantation's big house, the home of former Circuit Court Judge John F. Allen. Allen notified authorities.

Capt. Windham identified the captured man as Malcolm White, 32, and said Whitt denied he was involved in the shootings.

Windham identified the two men still being hunted as:

Leon Turner, 38, who once served 10 years in the state penitentiary for assault and battery with intent to kill; and Wendell Whit, 24, Malcolm's younger brother.

Pair Hunted In Slaying of 3 Negroes

Constitution
Jan. 1-10-50
Atlanta, Ga.

27J

KOSCIUSKO, Miss.—(UP)—A roaring fusillade killed thre Negro children and wounded their sister and father early yesterday and a posse beat the woods for two escaped white prisoners accused of the "revenge" massacre.

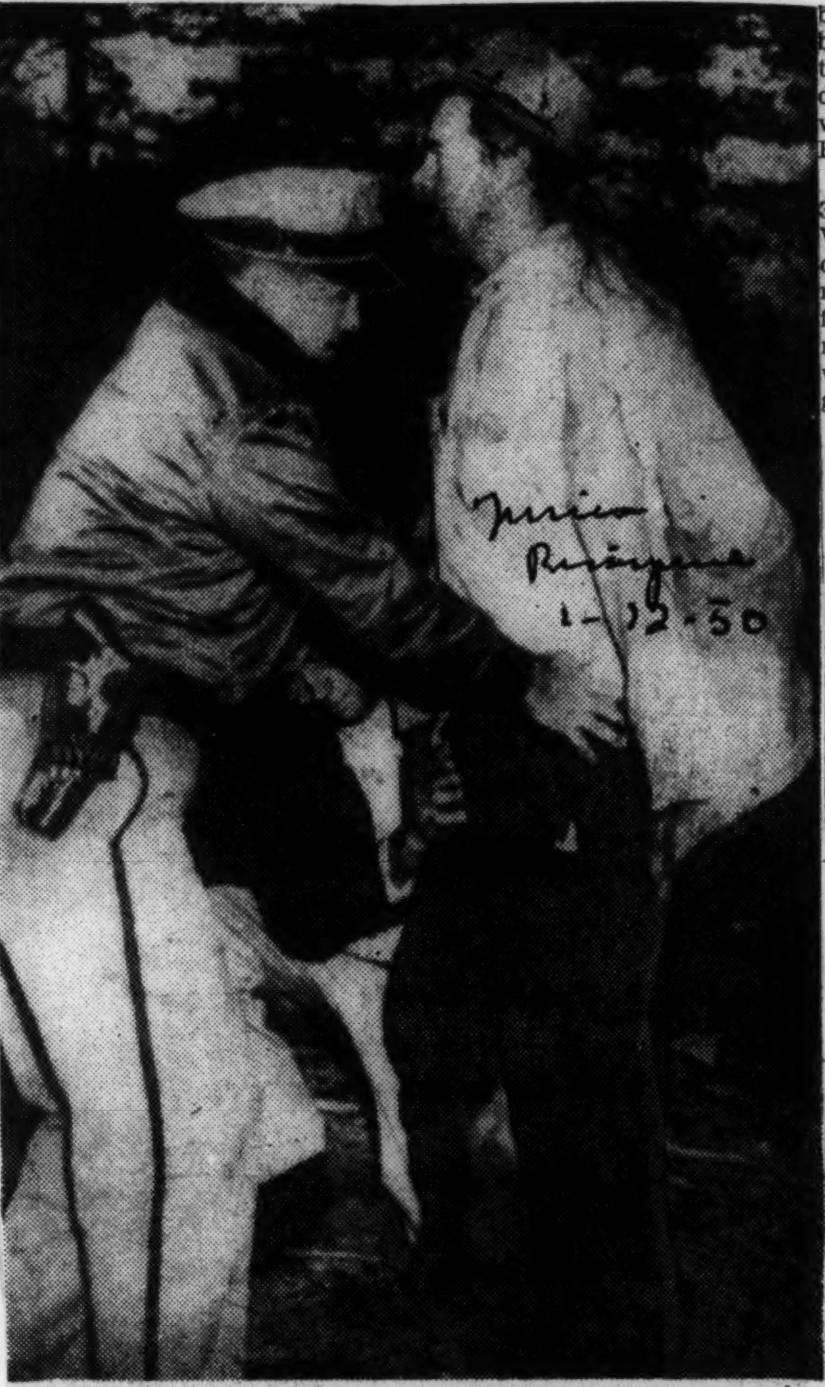
A third white man known to have broken jail with the two men sought was caught.

Killed in the hail of bullets as they prepared to rise for th day were: Sonny Man Harris, 13; Nell Harris, 4, and Mary McAtee, 7, a half sister of the other children.

Harris himself was badly wounded and his daughter, Verlene, 15, also was seriously wounded.

May Babe Harris, mother of the slain children who snatched up another child, an infant, and fled to safety during the shooting, identified the triggerman as Leon Turner, 38.

Turner, a notorious dead-shot who served a 10-year term in the State Penitentiary, broke jail here Dec. 30 along with Malcolm Whitt, 32, and Wendell Whitt, 24, brothers. The men tunneled to freedom with a knife and can opener.



Times Picayune
1-12-50

—WIREPHOTO by The Associated Press.

LEON TURNER SEARCHED AFTER CAPTURE
Unidentified officers with former convict.

POSSE NABS TWO ATTALA KILLERS

Quick-Triggered Prison Trusty Leads Capture

By WARREN ROGERS JR.
(The Associated Press)

Sallis, Miss, Jan. 11—A fast-triggered prison trusty in the forefront of a posse Wednesday collared the last two men of a white trio hunted as the drunken marauders who slaughtered three Negro children in their beds.

Two weeks earlier the three men had been arrested on charges of trying to rape the children's mother and armed burglary. They broke out of jail Dec. 30 with a beer can opener and later returned to the Negroes' home in drunken vengeance "to kill the whole family," District Attorney Henry Rodgers said.

27J

The hunted men—Leon Turner, 38-year-old former convict, and Wendell Whitt, 24—were ferreted out of a small potato house, two miles from the home of Turner's father near here. They offered no resistance to their captors, who were prepared for a shoot-to-kill gun battle.

Miss

Times Picayune

The trusty (C. E. Grammar), known as "Hog Jaw" Mullen of the Mississippi penitentiary at Parchman, followed a brace of bloodhounds to their hide-out in the dawn breaking hours, climaxing a 37-hour manhunt.

Mullen flushed the two men with six quick shots into the shoulder-high potato hut as supporting police officers and possemen closed in behind him. Turner was slightly wounded in the back. The slug was removed at a Jackson hospital.

Thurs. 1-12-50

The two men were hustled to Hinds county jail at Jackson, some 60 miles southwest of this Central Mississippi hill county. Less than three hours after the capture the Mississippi Senate—now in session at Jackson—praised the posse's work and called for a speedy trial.

New Orleans
La.

And Gov. Fielding Wright, in a formal statement, echoed the Senate resolution, saying, "The laws of Mississippi stand as a shield to protect and preserve the rights, the lives and the property of all our citizens, whatever their race may be."

The two men and Whitt's brother, 32-year-old Malcolm Whitt, were sought for the slaying last Sunday of the three Negro children—Frankie Thurman, 10; Mary Burnside, 8, and Ruby Nell Harris, 4.

Malcolm Whitt was apprehended earlier without a struggle.

Rodgers, who called the crime a "revenge slaying," said the trio blamed the family for their arrest. The district attorney gave this version:

Turner and the Whitt brothers had been terrorizing Negroes in this hilly country. On Dec. 22 they broke into the home of Thomas Harris, 27-year-old sharecropper, and two other Negro homes. Turner attempted to rape Harris' wife

but was diverted to a search for money. Deputies, called by earlier victims, arrested all three white men.

Eight days later they bored out of the Kosciusko county jail and holed up. Sunday night they burst forth in a drunken frenzy, seeking revenge on the Harris family.

While the Whitt brothers stood guard, Turner entered the house, critically wounded Harris and fired two shots into Harris' stepdaughter, Pearline Thurman, 15. As the younger children screamed for mercy he pumped bullets into them. Harris' wife and infant child fled unscathed, Rodgers concluded.

Highway patrol officials questioned Turner and the younger Whitt all afternoon, but said they got nothing from them.

The hero of the dramatic backwoods capture — Hogjaw Mullen—is not even known by that name in the Parchman penitentiary. Prison records list him as Clarence Grammer, 33, of Natchez, serving a life term for murder.

"Hogjaw" is a nickname he picked up in prison," Parchman superintendent Marvin Wiggins said in Jackson. "I never heard the Mullen part of it until today."

Of reports that Mullen—or Grammer—would be set free for catching the men, Wiggins said:

"It is possible in such cases to suspend a man's sentence. However, this clemency must be recommended by the prison superintendent.

"Hogjaw's already had one suspension of sentence. He stopped one escape and helped halt others.

"He's a model prisoner—smart as a whip and a good dog boy. But he can't seem to stay out of trouble on the outside."

Hogjaw looked like a character out of fiction Wednesday. He stood out boldly against the grim countryside, which was whipped to slush underfoot and blanketed by a buttermilk sky overhead.

His red flannel shirt and striped prison pants were in sharp contrast to the terrain and the costumes of the other searchers. A cowboyish hat and a pearl-handled revolver, strapped 'round his waist and anchored to a thigh, completed the ensemble.

Hogjaw and the dogs—part of a 14-man patrol sent out from the main posse—took up the search at the ramshackle house of Turner's father, Howard Turner. The crude house and outbuildings, rain-soaked and rotting, looked like a set for "Tobacco Road."

District inspector Charles Smith of the Mississippi highway patrol led the posse. He and the others surrounded the house at dawn, but broke through the door to find it empty. Clucking hens and a cat licking its fur under a bed were the only occupants.

Two Negro men riding weary mules were stopped in the road, questioned and turned back.

Hogjaw's bloodhounds pulled him through the house, seeking the scent. They led him out the back door and over a hill, ranging back and forth. A couple of hundred yards away, their voices broke into booming bays as they found the trail.

Hogjaw slithered after the dogs on the slimy, winding road. Officers in a half-dozen cars fell in behind him, the wheels of the vehicles slipping and spinning in the clay.

Two miles down the road, the caravan halted as the dogs pulled off the road and into the scratchy underbrush. They lit out across a cleared hill toward two small shacks at the crest.

Suddenly Hogjaw dropped the dog's leather traces. He whipped out his revolver and emptied all six of its slugs into the potato house. He yelled at the top of his lungs as officers scrambled out of cars, drawing as they struggled up the hillside.

Turner and Whitt came out of the hut, hands hoisted. A quick search produced the pistol, while the two men were made to lie face down in the mud. Their clothes were dishelved and their uncombed hair stood out straight atop their heads.

Crowds of curious began collecting as the two men were bundled into one of the cars and the sliding, slipping trip to Jackson got under way.

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Miss

1-12-50

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3 Children Shot to Death, Posse Hunts Jail Breakers

Slain Where Escaped Men Were First Arrested

(The Associated Press)

Kosciusko, Miss., Jan. 9—Three Negro children were slaughtered in their beds and their father and sister seriously wounded in a tenant farm house on a plantation near here.

A posse of more than 100 men scoured four Central Mississippi counties Monday night for two white men. A third has been apprehended.

Mrs. Roy Braswell, a deputy sheriff, said the three were the same men who escaped from Attala county jail here Dec. 30 using a beer can opener to dig a hole in a cell wall. She said the shooting occurred late Sunday night at the Negro home—the same place where they were apprehended on burglary charges early last month.

The three children killed by bursts of gunfire were identified by highway patrol Capt. A. S Windham as:

Sonny Man Harris, 12,
Mel Harris, 4,
Mary McAtee, 7, a half-sister.

The father, Thomas Harris, was seriously wounded and is not expected to live.

His 15-year-old daughter, Berlina Harris, was also wounded. Her condition has not been determined.

Windham said the mother fled the tenant house in her night clothes, taking with her a few weeks old baby. She fled to the plantation's big house, the home of former Circuit Court Judge John F. Allen. Allen notified authorities.

Capt. Windham identified the captured man as Malcolm Whitt 32, and said Whitt denied he was involved in the shootings.

Windham identified the two men still being hunted as:

Leon Turner, 38, who once served 10 years in the state penitentiary for assault and battery with intent to kill; and

Wendell Whitt, 24, Malcolm's younger brother.

Windham said the shootings occurred about 11 p. m. on the Allen plantation near Newport Miss., and about 11 miles south of here.

Forced Drive in Truck

He said the three white men then went to the home of Caesar Young, whom he identified as a Negro tenant farmer, and forced him to drive them to Wolf lake, near Louise, Miss., in Humphreys county. He said they kept Young's pickup truck but allowed him to go free.

For awhile, he said, the posse believed it had the men surrounded in a cabin on the lakeshore but when they rushed it, found it empty.

27J

Jan. 1-10-50

New Orleans La.

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3 Negroes Killed By Escapees

Greenwood, Miss

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 9 (AP) — Three negroes were killed and two others seriously injured in outbursts of gunfire on a plantation near Kosciusko early this morning, the highway patrol reported.

Patrol Capt. A. S. Windham said a four county manhunt is being conducted by more than 100 men in search of two white men wanted in the killings. A third man, identified by Windham as Malcolm Whitt, 32, was arrested about noon, Windham said.

Those still being sought, the patrol officer added, are:

Leon Turner, 38, who has served 10 years in the State Penitentiary for assault and battery with intent to kill; and Wendell Whitt, 24, Malcolm Whitt's younger brother.

Windham said they are the same trio that broke out of the Attala county jail at Kosciusko Dec. 30 using a beer can opener to dig a hole in the cell wall. They were being held there on burglary, charges, Windham said.

At Kosciousko, Mrs. Roy Braswell, wife of the Attala county sheriff, said her husband and all his deputies were taking part in the search. She had no information beyond the fact that the negroes were slain bewteen 2 and 2:30 a. m. today.

Neither Mrs. Braswell nor Windham had the victim's names.

Windham said information from the search is meagre, but that it is now covering Humphreys, Holmes, Attalla and Leake counties.

Whitt was captured by Sheriff Braswell and Leake county Sheriff F. F. Munday of Carthage, Windham reported. Whitt was driving a Studebaker truck when the officers stopped, but the patrol had no further information.

Windham said the search shifted to the vicinity of Louise in Humphreys county when a man reported he had been robbed early today by two men who later drove off in a truck. Windham said search party officers believed the third member of the trio remained in the truck.

Jan. 1-9-50

27J

Solicit Funds For Negro Family

Greenwood

The local Negro Chamber of Commerce under direction of Earl Cochran, president, will start a campaign today to raise funds for the negro family at Kosciusko where three members were killed by white men last week.

Solicitors will be Mamie Gee, Cora Cochran, Bernice Pickens, Lewis Golden, Rebecca McDonald, Eva Jones and Louie Redd. Contributions may also be mailed to Cochran at Hotel Plaza, 303 Stone Street.

27J

POSSE CAPTURES 2 IN KILLING OF NEGRO CHILDREN

Kosciusko, Miss., Jan. 11 [Special]—The last two of three white men sought in the slaying Sunday of three Negro children were captured today. Leon Turner, 38, an ex-convict termed by Sherif Roy Braswell the ringleader in the triple slaying, and Wendell Whitt, 24, surrendered when trapped by a posse in a potato storage house 18 miles south of Kosciusko.

Turner was shot in the back and wounded by "Hogjaw" Mullen, a Mississippi penitentiary trusty. The two were sought as the slayers of [illegible] C. Thurman, 10; Mary Burnside, 8, and Ruby Nell Harris, 4, who were shot to death on the farm of Thomas Harris, a Negro sharecropper. Harris and a Negro girl, Pearline Thurman, 15, were wounded.

Whitt's brother, Malcolm, 32 the third of the trio believed to have participated in the slayings, was captured Monday. The three broke out of the Attala county jail 12 days ago. They were under arrest on armed burglary and robbery charges in the attempted rape three weeks ago of Pearline Thurman, Harris' stepdaughter.

Chicago Ill.

1-12-50

27J

Miss

27j 1950 Missouri

8213

8213

TRIPLE KILLER SURROUNDED BY OZARK POSSE

Tribune

Wed. 8-9-50

Leaps from Truck After Kidnaping Farm Couple

Eminence, Mo., Aug. 8 [Special] —An ex-convict who last night killed three persons, one of them his daughter, and wounded two others in a shooting affray in an isolated farmhouse near here, was believed surrounded by a posse tonight in wooded, rolling country 20 miles southeast of here.

27j

Sherif Hubert Wright said the fugitive is William Harris, 39, known as an expert shot with rifle and pistol. He was last seen by pursuers today when he leaped from a commandeered truck on Dead Man ridge, in western Carter county.

Mo —

Flees into Woods

The sherif said Mr. and Mrs. Willie Reeves, local farm residents, were prisoners of Harris in the truck and that the posse withheld fire for fear of hitting them. Harris drove the truck past a road block at high speed, then jumped from the moving vehicle, and rolled down a gully.

Missouri R.
JEFFERSON CITY
ST. LOUIS
50 MILES
MISSOURI
ILLINOIS
Mississippi R.
Ozark Mts.
EMINENCE
FREMONT
CAIRO

Harris apparently was unhurt by his leap, the sherif said, and bounded into the woods waving a rifle.

The Reeves were unhurt. They said Harris appeared at their farm early today, stole their truck and forced them to accompany him in it at gunpoint. They said he was armed with two rifles and a pistol.

Those killed in last night's shooting were R. N. Fansler, 63, whose farm house in southern Shannon county was the scene of the affray; his son, Homer, 27, and Barbara Harris, 4, daughter of the gunman.

Two Others Wounded

The wounded are Fansler's wife, Rosa, 60, who was shot in the shoulder, and Chester Nichols, 42, Fansler's brother-in-law, who was shot in the hip. Both are in a hospital at Springfield.

An account of the shooting and events leading up to it was given by Nichols from his hospital bed. He said Harris recently had been living with his wife and two daughters on a newly purchased farm adjoining the Fansler property.

Last Wednesday Lola Jean Fansler, 15, Fansler's daughter, disappeared from home, Nichols said. She has not since been heard from by the Fansler family. Harris left his own home later the same day. When he failed to return, Mrs. Harris took her daughters to the Fansler home.

Fired by Flashlight

Nichols said he and Homer Fansler were preparing for bed last night in a back room of the Fansler farmhouse when they heard Harris enter the front room where six people were asleep. These were Mr. and Mrs. Fensler, Mrs. Harris and her daughters, and Joyce Thomas, 16, a neighbor who had been helping Mrs. Fansler with housework.

"I heard Harris say something about wanting Lola Jean's clothes," Nichols said. "Homer grabbed up a 25-30 rifle and I took a pistol and we ran into the front room. It was dark but Harris had a flashlight and he kept flashing it around and firing. A bullet hit me before I could fire. I fell and Homer fell on top of me. He hadn't fired either. Nobody did any shooting but Harris."

Harris left the farm in a truck, taking his wounded daughter, Barbara; his wife and their other daughter, Loretta, 2, and Miss Thomas with him. This truck was ditched two miles from the farm. Harris left alone on foot. Neighbors found the others in the vehicle. Barbara was dead. Homer Fansler died in an ambulance en route to a hospital.

27j 1950 New York 8214

50 Women Attack Burglary Suspect

Herald Tribune

Youth, 16, Saved by Police in Bronx Outbreak

Three Bronx detectives saved a sixteen-year-old burglary suspect from the wrath of fifty women yesterday after he was surprised by a housewife while looting her apartment, police reported. The suspect was booked at the Simpson Street station as Jesus Morera, of 578 Prospect Avenue, the Bronx.

Morera, according to police, broke into the apartment of Mrs. Vivian Gentili, on the fifth floor of 664 Fox Street, the Bronx, at 4 p. m. Mrs. Gentili returned home as he was going through the flat, and her screams sent him scurrying, empty-handed, up the fire-escape. A neighbor's call to police brought Detectives Edward Haran, Barney Reynolds and Clinton Thomas to the scene. Going to the roof of the adjoining building at 672 Fox Street, Detective Haran found Morera and brought him down.

Emerging from the building they encountered the group of women, some of whom, police said, were themselves victims of a recent series of burglaries.

"Lynch him," some of the women ~~shouted, and the~~ detectives placed themselves about the prisoner strategically. It took them five minutes to reach their car, while the women pushed and pinched at Morera, the detectives reported.

Safe in the car, the suspect told police he wanted "to get some money for my mother for Mother's Day."

8373

8373

Klan Chief Charged With Mob Conspiracy

27 J

CONWAY, S. C.—(INS) — The head of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina was arrested Thursday afternoon on a charge of "conspiracy to stir up mob violence."

Horry County Sheriff C. E. Sasser announced the arrest of Tom Hamilton just before he made a radio address denouncing the klan for its robed demonstration in a Negro district of a resort community.

Hamilton is charged with inciting a riot last Saturday night in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, which resulted in the death of Patrolman James Daniel Johnston.

9-2-50

Johnston, on duty when the shooting occurred, was wearing a white sheet over his uniform and parading with a group of klansmen. They were en route to "Negro Hill" a settlement on the outskirts of Myrtle Beach.

Stopping before a Negro nightclub, the klansmen were allegedly "warned" to keep moving. When they refused, shooting broke out in which Negro club owner Charlie Fitzgerald was wounded and Johnston killed.

Sasser said Hamilton is being held in Conway, but Fitzgerald has been transferred to another part of the state "for safekeeping."

Meanwhile, T. M. Floyd, of Lery, S. C., was discharged on the spot from membership in the state constabulary for being a klan member and allegedly participating in the Myrtle Beach parade.

At the same time, Mayor J. N. Ramey and Police Chief W. C. Newton of Myrtle Beach issued a statement denying that there was any justification for the robed demonstration.

"We have heard it rumored that the reason the KKK invaded the colored section of Myrtle Beach for the fact that white women visited this section . . . for immoral purposes," the statement said

"This is absolutely untrue."

Sheriff Sasser also cleared Fitzgerald, the proprietor of the club of any blame in the slaying of the policeman and laid the blame on the raiding Klansmen.

In his broadcast, Sasser said that Fitzgerald could not have fired the shot which killed the policeman and did not believe any of the Negroes fired any shots.

Negro Captured After White Woman Beaten

Advertiser

WILLINGTON, S. C., Nov. 27—(AP)—Police reported a Negro youth severely beat an elderly white woman with an iron bar and terrorized her companion in their home here early Monday.

He was captured a few hours later with the aid of state bloodhounds by a posse organized by McCormick County Sheriff W. L. Brown.

11-28-50

Brown identified him as Almus Jackson, 18. He said the youth has been sent to the state penitentiary at Columbia for safekeeping.

Willington is a small town near the Georgia border.

S. C. Youth Kills One; 14 Jailed

Courier

GREENWOOD, S. C.—"Bravery, unlimited" kept Clayton Moore Sr. in the land of the living here last week when his 14-year-old son, Clayton Jr., single-handedly stood off a mob of whites who sought to kidnap and kill his father. With his shotgun young Moore killed one mobster and put the others to flight.

Greenwood County Sheriff J. Cal White later rounded up fourteen white men, residents of this city and nearby Abbeville, and charged them with plotting to kidnap and kill the elder Moore. Mr. Moore Sr. is a janitor at the Mathews textile mill here, having been employed there for thirteen years.

2-23-51

MAN IDENTIFIED

After the body of the slain mobster was found in the Moore front yard the morning after the attack, the elder Moore was arrested and held briefly. When details of the affair were disclosed, the father was released and the son arrested and placed under $1,000 bond for killing George Ferguson, 41, of Abbeville, identified as the dead man.

Two carloads of whites drove up to the Moore home after dark about eleven days ago and under the pretext of wanting water for the radiator of one of the cars lured the elder Moore into the yard. With three of the whites, Mr. Moore started to his well, some 200 yards from the house.

With all the precision of a well-planned operation the whites walked some distance with Moore, then suddenly stopped and one of them said: "This is far enough." The man then pulled out a pistol, grabbed Moore and threatened to take him with them and kill him if he said anything.

The mobsters beat the elder Moore over the head with pistol butts, requiring medical treatment later for the bruises. Mr. Moore tried to yell for help as he struggled with the mobsters. Hearing the ruckus, Clayton Jr. came out of the house with his shotgun in hand.

MOBSTERS RUSHED BOY

According to his grandfather, John Moore, one of the mobsters rushed the lad. Without flinching, the youth raised his weapon and fired. The man fell to the ground. Temporarily stunned, the mobsters loosened their hold on Mr. Moore who fled to the house where he and his son took shelter behind locked doors.

Upset by the sudden turn of events, the other whites piled into their automobiles and roared away, leaving their fallen mate on the ground in front of Moore's home. It was found there next morning when the grandfather went to the house to find out why Clayton Moore Sr. had not reported to the mill for work. He called the sheriff.

Working around the clock, night and day, Sheriff White searched for leads and clues and finally swore out warrants for the arrest of fourteen white men here in Abbeville. He then arrested the fourteen and placed the conspiracy to kidnap and kill charge aaginst them.

"GOOD EMPLOYE"

After arresting the senior Moore and releasing him, Sheriff White arrested Clayton Jr., and later released him under $1,000 bond on a charge of killing George Ferguson. Officials of the mill where Moore works called him a "good employe" and expressed no knowledge of any good reason why he should have been attacked by the whites. The Moores live in a rural section here.

27j 1950 Tennessee

8215

Motorist Feared Lynching After Striking Child

Courier 27J

HUNTSVILLE, Tenn.—A Detroit man who feared he would be lynched for striking an 8-year-old white girl with his car and breaking her leg, surrendered Thursday after fleeing a posse for twenty-four hours in the wild uplands near here.

The man, Lovie Williams, 35, was driven to take a chance and give himself up because of hunger. Sheriff Dorsey Rosser told the colored man his fears were groundless.

He was jailed on a charge of reckless driving.

Williams fled on foot into the Cumberland Mountains Wednesday after he took the girl, Barbara Jean Matthews, to a hospital following the accident in which his car hit the child. He was en route to Detroit from Georgia.

Dec. 1-2-50

Pittsburgh, Pa.

27j 1950 Texas 8216

Posse Trails Sheriff Killer

3-14-50

MARFA, Texas, March 13 (AP)—Texas Ranger Gully Cowsert rode into Marfa late Monday night and said a mounted posse had tracked the killer of a Big Bend sheriff fifteen miles through rugged mountains—but lost his trail near the Mexican border.

Marfa

Cowsert said he would lead the posse out again early Tuesday. Meanwhile, river riders patrolled the Rio Grande to prevent the slayer from slipping into Mexico—if he hasn't already done so.

Texas

The unidentified man shot popular Sheriff O. W. (Blackie) Morrow, 43, early Sunday and left him dying on a lonely mountain road between here and Presidio. The sheriff, blood pouring from a hole through the left side of his body, managed to get into his car and drive a mile toward Presidio before he died.

The sheriff's handcuffs and gun were missing. Officers had theorized he stopped to make an arrest, then was disarmed and shot. Apparently he had handcuffed the killer before the man got the drop on him.

Cowsert said the trackers could tell that their quarry was handcuffed from marks his hands dug into the ground when he fell among the Big Bend's rocks and cactus.

Was Their Daddy Victim of Lynching?

Washington Man Fleeing Mob Nabbed as Criminal

Afro American

Afro-American Sat 8-19-50 Baltimore, Md.

The smiles on the faces of these bright faced little tykes do not reflect the sorrow in their hearts resulting from the tragic slaying of their father James Robinson of Washington, D.C., who was shot to death while handcuffed in a jail at Wakefield, Va. A truck driver, Mr. Robinson sought protection from a mob of white hoodlums who had attacked him. He was slain by a deputy sheriff. The children are left to right Eulas, 2; Irene, 2½; and Maggie, 9. At lower right is Mr. Robinson, father of the children

Taken to Jail, Shot to Death, Handcuffed

Sat-8-19-50

WASHINGTON

James W. Robinson, local truck driver who was shot to death handcuffed in a Wakefield, Va., jail by a white deputy sheriff, last Saturday, was fleeing from a gang of white hoodlums when he was taken to jail, his cousin told the AFRO on Wednesday.

He was not engaged in housebreaking, as reported in the daily press, the cousin, Mrs Norma Washington, declared

Mrs. Washington, who lives at 1630 Irving St., N.W., said that funeral services for Mr. Robinson were held Sunday at his birthplace in Heath Springs.

Baltimore!

His wife, Mrs. Carrie Robinson of 3421 15th St., S.E. and his four small children left for Heath Springs on Friday.

Sought Stranger's Help

Reports which reached the Robinson family, this week, stated that five white men attacked Mr. Robinson in Wakefield. Friday night, and beat him with sticks.

When he ran for help to the nearest house, a white woman who lived in the house called Deputy Sheriff S. P Laine, who arrested and handcuffed Mr. Robinson and put him in jail.

The slaying took place the following afternoon, when Deputy Sherriff Laine is reported to have shot Mr. Robinson in the forehead and over the heart.

Envious of Progress

Willie Bradshaw, proprietor of the Bradshaw Hauling Company in Terra Cotta, D.C., where Mr. Robinson worked arrived at the jail shortly after the second shot was fired.

It was said that the white men had attacked Mr. Robinson because the new $11,000 truck and trailer which he drove for Bradshaw enabled him to make more trips for a Wakefield lumber company than a local white trucking company in Wakefield could make.

JAMES W. ROBINSON

The whites had told Mr. Robinson to keep out of Wakefield, it was reported, but he went there as usual, last week, and transported some lumber to Petersburg. He returned to Wakefield on Friday night and was waiting to take a load to Goldsboro, N.C., when he was beaten up by the group of white men.

Character Impeachable

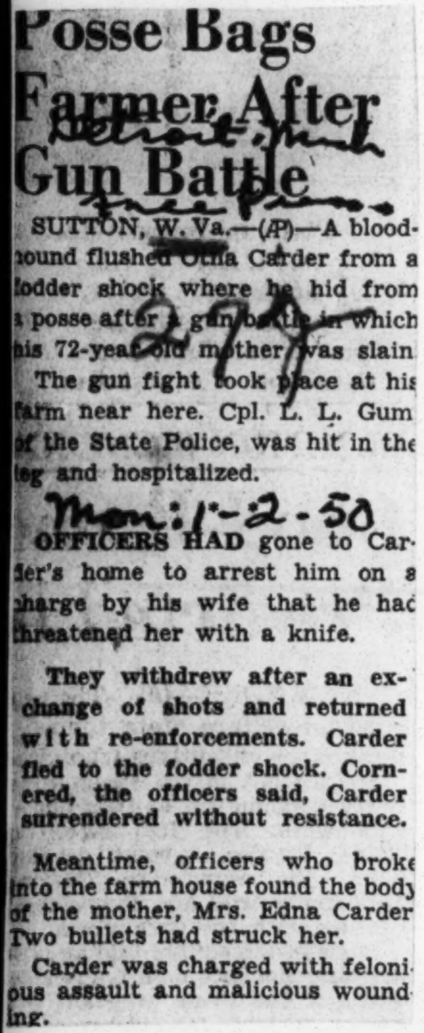
At his place of employment here, Mr. Robinson was spoken of as an industrious and reliable worker who had never been in trouble before. He was a member of Springfield Baptist Church.

Surviving Mr. Robinson, in addition to his wife and children are Mr. and Mrs. Willie Robinson of Heath Springs, his parents; Maxwell, Eulas, Hazel and Lester Robinson; Mrs. Bertha Hall, Mrs. Patsy Archer; and Miss Carrie McIlwain, a niece.

Mrs. Washington, the cousin, mentioned above, is the daughter of Mrs. Mamie Howell of the Irving St. address, who is Mr. Robinson's aunt.

27j 1950 West Virginia

8217



Posse Bags Farmer After Gun Battle

Detroit, Mich. Free Press

SUTTON, W. Va.—(AP)—A bloodhound flushed Otha Carder from a fodder shock where he hid from a posse after a gun battle in which his 72-year-old mother was slain.

277

The gun fight took place at his farm near here. Cpl. L. L. Gum of the State Police, was hit in the leg and hospitalized.

Mon: 1-2-50

OFFICERS HAD gone to Carder's home to arrest him on a charge by his wife that he had threatened her with a knife.

They withdrew after an exchange of shots and returned with re-enforcements. Carder fled to the fodder shock. Cornered, the officers said, Carder surrendered without resistance.

Meantime, officers who broke into the farm house found the body of the mother, Mrs. Edna Carder. Two bullets had struck her.

Carder was charged with felonious assault and malicious wounding.